THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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FOREIGN PLOT BREWING TO DEFAME INDIAN TEA, SAYS MODI

The Prime Minister says international forces are trying to attack India's tea-based identity, but did not name anyone

RILED BY CHAI IN THUNBERG TOOLKIT?

During his poll campaign rally in the tea producing state's Dhekiajuli on Sunday, Modi was apparently referring to activist Greta Thunberg's controversial 'toolkit', wherein one of the action points was to 'disrupt yoga and chai image of India'. The other target perhaps was a Greenpeace study in 2014 that claimed Assam tea growers overused pesticides

CENTRE REACHING OUT TO FARMERS

- Assam's happiness and progress are its tea gardens. Who knows the taste of Assam tea better than me? That's why I always see the progress of tea workers with the progress of Assam, he said
- Reaching out to the tea workers, he said the Centre has alloted ₹1,000 crore for the sector in the budget to uplift their lot

₹584 crore

GIVEN TO 7.5 LAKH BY ASSAM GOVT UNDER A SCHEME FOR TEA WORKERS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

At least 10 dead, up to 150 missing in Himalayan glacier break

Five bridges washed away, 17 villages totally cut off after a portion of Nanda Devi glacier breaks off; flash floods destroy a couple of power plants in Uttarakhand

VINEET UPADHYAY @ Chamoli

A glacier break that swept into the Rishiganga and Dhauliganga rivers in Reni and Tapovan villages, 26 km from Joshimath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district, triggered a massive flood and claimed at least 10 lives on Sunday. The number of casualties can rise because nearly 125-150 labourers working at a power project in Tapovan-Reni are missing.

Disaster struck around 10 am. A total of 17 villages got totally cut off as five bridges were washed away. Residents of seven of these moved to safer places. People of the 10 other villages are being provided help, said officials. Damages were reported at Tapovan dam on Alaknanda river, while the 13.2 megawatt Rishiganga hydropower project was completely swept away. Around 176 workers were working on these projects.

Close to 250 personnel from the National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Indian Army and Indian Air Force joined the rescue work, said Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat. The state government has announced ₹4 lakh each for the families of the deceased. "All our efforts are focused on reaching people and providing relief. Our brave forces are doing their job and we have support from the whole nation. Essential items, medicines, choppers of Indian Army, Air Force and state government are on standby," the CM added.

The labourers missing are mostly from the state. Some are from Nepal and western UP. ITBP rescued 16 people trapped in a tunnel of a dam which is a part of the hydroproject.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Rawat and assured all help. **CONTINUED ON: P9**

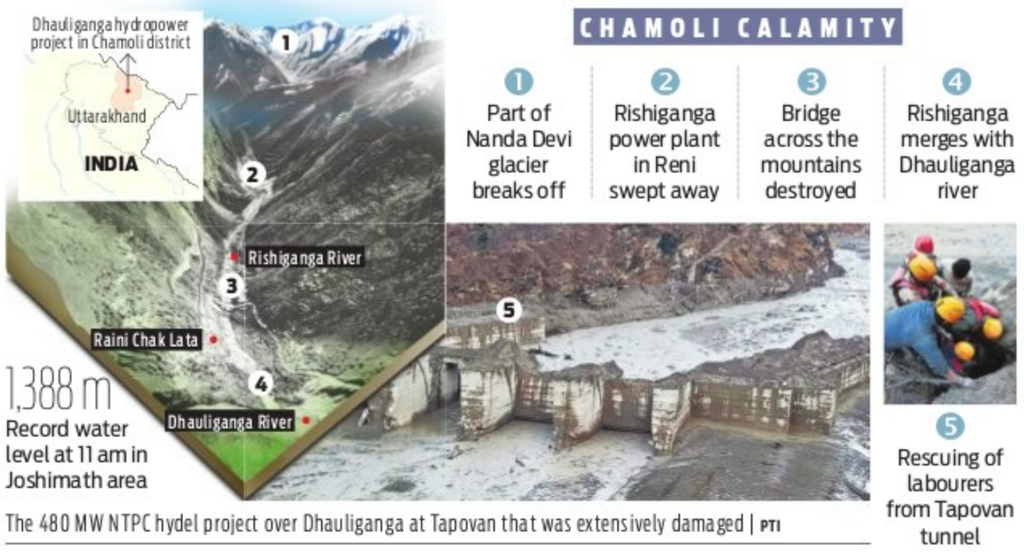
Major natural disasters

1991
6.8 quake in undivided UP in October 1991 killed over 760 people, thousands of houses destroyed

1998
Malpa village in Pithoragarh district destroyed in landslide; 255 people, including 55 Kailash pilgrims, killed

1999
6.8 quake hit Chamoli district killing over 100 people. Rudraprayag district, too, affected

2013
Cloudbursts in June 2013 in Uttarakhand caused massive floods and landslides. 5,700+ killed; over 3 lakh pilgrims trapped for weeks


Dhauliganga hydropower project in Chamoli district
Uttarakhand
INDIA
CHAMOLI CALAMITY
1 Part of Nanda Devi glacier breaks off
2 Rishiganga power plant in Reni swept away
3 Bridge across the mountains destroyed
4 Rishiganga merges with Dhauliganga river
Rishiganga River
Raini Chak Lata
Dhauliganga River
1,388 m
Record water level at 11 am in Joshimath area
5 Rescuing of labourers from Tapovan tunnel

The 480 MW NTPC hydel project over Dhauliganga at Tapovan that was extensively damaged | PTI

Scary roar out of nowhere from the hills

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Dehradun

AT Reni village that is at the epicentre of the tragedy, Sandeep Nautiyal was lazing around on a bright and sunny Sunday when he heard a big roar from the hills. He looked around and spotted the horrible avalanche menacingly approaching at least 5 km away.

His first instinct was to rush out of his house and alert fellow villagers to flee, shouting '*Bhago Bhago*'. "Suddenly we heard a mix of a roar and a slight tremor. We saw this huge wave coming down the mountains washing off everything in its way," said Nautiyal.

The village of 300-odd people located near the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve mostly has shepherds, farmers and workers. "Landslides during monsoon are common, but this avalanche in winter is shocking," said Shankar Rana, another resident. At least five locals are feared missing and 180 sheep and goat were swept away by the flash floods.

Chamoli disaster rings the global warming alarm bell

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Dehradun

IT was a glacial break alright, but the jury is still out on how and why it actually happened. However, the mismatch between the haste in commissioning projects in the ecologically-fragile zone and the need to fortify mitigation mechanism suggests it was a disaster waiting to happen. Experts blame it on the lessons not learnt by successive governments, given Uttarakhand's history of natural disasters.

A former glaciologist at Dehradun's Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, D P Dobhal, called for a detailed probe. "Lake formation must have happened, which breached today and caused the floods," Dobhal said, adding that heavy sediments in the floodwater indicate an avalanche or glacial debris could have triggered the burst. "It will take time to ascertain the reasons as had happened with the 2013 disaster in Kedarnath. After investigation it was confirmed to be a glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF)," said Dobhal.

The possibility of the incident being GLOF has rung alarm bells among the glaciologists. Given that it occurred in winter, it would signal that global warming was a major contributing factor.

In 2014, a high-powered committee, constituted by the Supreme Court, led by Ravi Chopra, had recommended scrapping of 23 out of 24 hydel projects slated for construction above an altitude of 2,000 metres in the aftermath of the 2013 floods. "We submitted a report warning against constructing hydel projects at an altitude above 2,000 metres, noting various vulnerabilities which could result in a major disaster. Altitude above 2,000 metres is para glacial region, where heavy constructions should be avoided," he said. But the recommendation was not acted upon, said activist Aakash Vashishta. **P9**

EXPRESS READ

Centre eyes 1K routes under UDAN scheme

Raipur: Union Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Sunday said his ministry has set a target of operationalising 100 unserved and underserved airports and starting at least 1,000 air routes under UDAN. He also said privatisation is required in aviation.

Govt to work with RBI for bank privatisation

Mumbai: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday said the government will work with RBI for execution of the bank privatisation plan announced in the Union Budget, which was presented last week.

India ranks third in most number of jabs

New Delhi: India has become the third top-most country in the world in terms of the number of Covid-19 vaccine doses administered, the Union Health Ministry said on Sunday. Only the United States and the United Kingdom remain ahead of India.

WITH THIS ISSUE
THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex
34 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID), 4 OF CITY EXPRESS

ST status: Lakhs gather at Kuruba show of strength

Members of the Kuruba community arrive from different parts of the state in Bengaluru on Sunday, for the convention demanding ST status | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IN a massive show of strength, lakhs of people belonging to the Kuruba community from across the state gathered in Bengaluru on Sunday, demanding the Scheduled Tribe tag for the community.

The convention at the Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre near Nelamangala was the culmination of a three-week-long 340-km padayatra that started in January at Kaginele of Haveri under the leadership of Kaginele Kanaka Guru Peetha Seer Sri Niranjananandapuri.

Seers and politicians from the community across party lines stood hand-in-hand on the dais in a show of solidarity in their demand for the ST status. However, the tallest Kuruba leader, Congress Legislature Party chief Siddaramaiah, was conspicuous by his absence.

"We are not asking for a new addition to the ST status list. Kurubas were classified as ST even before Independence. We are merely demanding restoration of that tag. A majority from the community still live in hamlets, grasslands herding sheep. While Kadu Kuruba and Jenu Kurubas are considered as ST then why not all Kurubas? Gonda, Rajagondas and Kurubas are the same but Kurubas aren't given ST certificates," said HM Revanna, a senior Congress leader from the community. **P4,7**

Traffic out of gear

Despite traffic diversions made by the police, traffic snarls were reported on the highway as more vehicles showed up.

We are not asking for a new addition to the ST list. Kurubas were classified as ST even before Independence. We merely want the tag restored.

H M Revanna, Congress leader

It is painful to see that the person that this community sacrificed its body, soul and wealth to make the CM has not turned up.

A H Vishwanath, MLC, taking a dig at Siddaramaiah

K'TAKA PAID ₹15 CR TO VEERAPPAN FOR Dr RAJKUMAR'S RELEASE IN 2000: BOOK

M SABARI @ Salem

SANDALWOOD smuggler Veerappan had driven both the Tamil Nadu and Karnataka governments up the wall when he abducted Kannada matinee idol Dr Rajkumar and held him hostage for over hundred days.

Two decades later, a book written by a journalist who was part of the team that negotiated with the brigand claims that the Karnataka government had paid crores of rupees, ₹15.22 crore to be precise, as ransom, to secure a deal.

Dr Rajkumar was abducted from his farm house in Gajanur near Thalavadi in Tamil Nadu on the night of July 30, 2000. Rajkumar's relatives Govindaraj, Nakesh and his assistant Nagappa were also abducted. On behalf of the Tamil Nadu and Karnataka governments, a team led by Nakkheeran magazine editor, Gopal, was sent into the forest to negotiate with Veerappan. P Sivasubramaniyam, veteran journalist and author of the book, was part of the team. After several rounds of negotiations, which lasted 106 days, Veerappan released Rajkumar on November 13, 2000. Subsequently, it was widely speculated in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka that crores of rupees exchanged hands. But the Karnataka government and Rajkumar's family members called them rumours.

On Saturday, Sivasubramaniyam released a book 'Veerappan Vaazhnthathum Veezhnthathum (Life & Fall of Veerappan) - part two and three' which has created ripples in the political arena. The first part of the book was released last year. **P7**

I do not know of any such transaction. Neither have I met this person, nor was I asked any such thing. I have not given anything

Congress veteran Mallikarjun Kharge, who was then the Home Minister of Karnataka

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Zindagi ke saath bhi, Zindagi ke baad bhi.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 08/02/2021 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Pausha • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Dwadashi 3.03 am
Nakshatra: Moola 3.28 pm • Moon in Makara Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 15°C | MAX 29°C
FORECAST
Morning clouds

Sunrise 6.44 am
Sunset 6.23 pm
Moonrise 3.34 am
Moonset 5.12 pm

ROYAL TOUCH

BBMP Administrator Gaurav Gupta, scion of the erstwhile Mysore royal family Yaduveer Krishnadatta Wadiyar, former chief minister Siddaramaiah and Congress leader Dinesh Gundu Rao inaugurate a statue of Mysore Maharaja Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar at Gandhinagar in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Covid taught us big lessons: Prez

Says evolution of healthcare sector calls for active involvement, participation of stakeholders

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

HEALTHCARE delivery in India is poised to undergo a change at all stages — prevention, diagnosis and treatment — said President Ramnath Kovind on Sunday.

He was addressing the 23rd annual convocation ceremony of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.

The President said that no single entity in the healthcare sector can deliver results and achieve outcomes. The evolution of the sector calls for active involvement and participation of all stakeholders and the use of innovation to bridge intent and execution, he added.

The pandemic, he said, has taught us to be better prepared for unforeseen public health crises. In the post-Covid phase, the world will have to pay more attention to public healthcare, he said.

"With the pandemic cutting across class and geography, it has taught the world that one cannot be safe if others are at risk. It is a lesson in universal brotherhood," the President said.

He said he was glad to learn that the University had trained over 2 lakh healthcare professionals, from doctors and nurses to administrators and hospital facility providers, to better respond to the outbreak.

Presenting gold medals and cash prizes to the top 16 students from affiliated colleges, the President pointed out that 8 out of the 12 gold medals that he awarded at the event were won by "our daughters".

"I am told that out of the 111 gold medal winners of this convocation, 87 are our daughters. This is almost 80 per cent and is a tremendous achievement. I am happy that women are leading our country into the future in all fields including medical sciences," he added.

Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar conferred the Doctor of Science Honori Causa upon Dr Alangar Sathyaranjandas Hegde, neurosurgeon.

Dr S Sacchidanand , Vice Chancellor of RGUHS, said that the institute had proposed to earmark a corpus of Rs 100 crore for research activities.

As many as 33,629 students were awarded degrees and prizes. The overall pass percentage of all faculties is 82 per cent at the institute.

During President Ram Nath Kovind's visit, Madikeri residents were told to remain indoors as if they were a security risk. The President did not utter a word about the pain and suffering of the people of Kodagu during three consecutive years of cloudburst and flooding

— Brijesh Kalappa, Congress spokesman, who hails from Kodagu

Gold medalists of the 23rd annual convocation ceremony of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences on Sunday. Right: President Ramnath Kovind addresses the gathering | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

With the pandemic cutting across class and geography, it has taught the world that one cannot be safe if others are at risk. It is a lesson in universal brotherhood

Ramnath Kovind, President

EXPRESS READ

'Issue health cards to govt school students'

Prof M R Doreswamy, adviser to the state government on education reforms, has submitted suggestions during a pre-budget meeting with Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar. Two key suggestions include issuing digital health cards to government school students and creating adjunct positions at RHUHS for global experts to facilitate transfer of knowledge and technology in health and education services. ENS

Applications invited for BU's MBA course

Bangalore University has invited applications for admissions to the MBA Day/Eve Programme at Canara Bank School of Management Studies, JB Campus. The application form can be downloaded from the website www. bangaloreuniversity.ac.in. Last date of submission is February 15. ENS

5-day workshop on AI

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering of the University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) and AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) Academy is jointly organising a five-day online Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on 'Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Deep Learning'. Prof Venugopal K R, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, inaugurated the programme on Sunday. ENS

Sensors for STPs now must only for large apartments

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

A public notification issued by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on January 4, asking apartments to install sensors in Sewage Treatment Plants to allow monitoring online has triggered an uproar among apartment residents, who have to shell out anywhere between Rs 4 lakh and Rs 10 lakh to install such sensors. The board on Sunday, however, clarified that the sensors are mandatory at present only for mega commercial or residential apartments that treat 5 lakh litres or more of sewage per day.

Syed Khaja, Senior Environmental Officer, KSPCB, said that only around 100 buildings in the city will come under this category. "We will give them two to three months to complete the process," he added. Though initially planned for nearly 2,500 apartments that have STPs, the absence of sufficient vendors to install sensors forced the board to defer the move for all apartments.

Khaja said, "We had called for Expression of Interest from vendors and 12 had applied, but only four met our criteria." The notification copy calls upon the public to install sensors using these four registered vendors.

"There are very few in India who carry out this job and they import parts from Germany and Japan. This increases the cost. They have specified installation costs ranging between Rs 4 lakh and Rs 10 lakh which would be expensive for regular apartments. We have had talks with startups and asked them to work out cheaper solutions. It might take them at least a year. Now, we will make it mandatory only for large buildings," he said.

Vijaykumar Gogi, Chairman, KSPCB, said, "It was to ensure efficient monitoring by the board of inlet and outlet systems of the STP so that all discharged sewage gets treated."

Pavan Vasista of Doddakallasandra got a jolt when received a quotation on Sunday for Rs 10.48 lakh plus 18 per cent GST from one of the registered vendors. He said that it was too exorbitant for apartment residents.

Gautam Kamat of 'Liberty Square' apartment on Kanakapura Main Road said, "KSPCB needs to come out with clear instructions. The implications if the parameters of the board are not met, or if it goes below the expected level, have not been specified."

BACK ON TRACK

Closed airport runway to begin operations by March-end

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THE closed North Runway of Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) is set to begin flight operations by March-end, according to the airport's operator, Bangalore International Airport Limited. However, it will not be CAT IIIB compliant.

The runway was shut on June 22 last year to carry out upgradation work. "Our endeavour is to operationalise the North Runway by March-end 2021," a spokesperson told TNIE.

Elaborating on the work being carried out, the spokesperson said, "Rehabilitation of the runway and taxiway with a new asphalt top layer, along with strengthening of the surface is being done. Provision of LED runway centre line and runway edge lights is also being undertaken."

Another major work involves providing two additional entry taxiways, the spokesperson added.

Additional transmissometers (runway visual range equipment) were also being installed at North Runway.

The south runway at KIA

Meanwhile, the South Runway became operational on December 6, 2019, and was declared CAT-III compliant on December 31, 2020, making it the first in South India to achieve it. The first landing was on January 21, 2021 under CAT IIIB conditions (low visibility conditions).

The spokesperson said, "The North Runway will not be CAT-III compliant, while the South Runway is. This infrastructure is adequate for the low-visibility weather conditions at Bengaluru airport," she said. However, because of runway and taxiway centre lights, the North Runway will be able to accommodate low-visibility takeoffs up to runway visual range of 125 metres.

Both landing and takeoff will be permitted on the new runway. Approval from the Director General of Civil Aviation is needed to commence operations.

Asked if any measures were taken to improve the poor patronage at the airport halt station, the spokesperson said, "BIAL is working with relevant authorities to align train timings and associated facilities to suit the shifts at the airport, enabling employees to use the train services." It would also be beneficial for air passengers, who would be able to use train services, especially during peak hours.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

08th February: Jupiter, symbolising boundless optimism, is making its way through helpful zones, reaching a peak period in its twelve-month journey through the zodiac. This must be good news for all of us, although I often feel that excessive optimism is not always helpful. More on this tomorrow.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
There may be a general feeling this week that it's too late. 'Too late for what?' you may ask. In your case, you just might have no time left to complete a favoured project at work, or to get a number of routine tasks satisfactorily completed. Actually, though, there's more time than you think!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Don't sit still today. The approaching lunar phase cycle is ideal for all adventurous, creative and expansive Taureans. Please don't pass up a golden opportunity by being a stick-in-the-mud. And, besides, if you miss out on this week's offers you'll kick yourself.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The tensions may be building up at home, but a threatened argument may not materialise, a little like a thunder storm which builds up and then fails to break. Deft footwork will aid your cause, and they'll even be times when you're able to disappear into the background.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Concentrate on letting other people know what you think and how you feel. The entire emphasis of the moment is on communication, so many of you may be called away on a short journey. In that case, my sincere advice is to check, double-check and treble-check all essential details.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Two important celestial factors, one Mars and the other Saturn, are responsible for making this a generally auspicious day. One word for the whole week, though, is to keep a close eye on financial comings and goings. Above all, be as utterly practical as you can.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You're in for a bit of a bumpy ride but Mercury, the planet which rules your mental processes, should now soften the blow or compensate for any disappointment caused by recent delays. You may, briefly, have to go over old ground, but the results of such persistence will be splendid.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Look very closely at an issue which may cause a little pain. You have nothing to fear because, over the next seven days, the planets are assuming a pattern which simultaneously favours both your inner, private world and your successful public demeanour.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
It's time to put your own ideas forward, regardless of what society says. Don't stand on ceremony, but do make your personal status the overriding factor. Professional and community-minded Scorpios will do best; those of you stuck at home may watch the world drifting by.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Seen from one angle, the situation at work this week could not be more auspicious, yet there is a chance that you could let a marvellous opportunity slip from your grasp. Move, without delay, to a position where nobody can challenge you - and everyone supports you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
There's no denying that it will take a great deal of effort to reach your goals, but then that's part of what being a Capricorn is all about. Yet if you stick to your principles, it will be so much easier. For one thing, you'll earn family members' respect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
It may be necessary to take swift action to rectify a blunder, possibly one with financial overtones, yet by the end of the week you will see that principles are so much more important than profit. Your major priority is to build up your support network, seeing to it that friends are on your side.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Always remember that people like you because you're you, and you really don't have to put on an act if you don't want to. Personal relationships should now be eased by the fact that partners seem to be listening to you for a change. And about time, too, you might think!

THE PHANTOM

NEARING THEIR DESTINATION
HOW ARE THOSE COORDINATES LOOKING?
SO CLOSE A MAN MIGHT SEE OUR LIGHTS....
I WILL EXTINGUISH THEM.
NOW, THE WORK!
WE RESCUE MY FRIEND, CAPTURE A MANIAC, ESCAPE TO BANGALLA.
THAT'S ALL?
YOU GAVE ME WAY TOO MUCH MONEY....

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

HI MR. B., YOU'VE REACHED ELMO'S CANDY BAG! PRESS 1 FOR TRICK AND 2 FOR TREAT!
HUH?
BEEP...KINDLY REMAIN ON HOLD... YOUR CANDY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
ELMO JUST TRICK-OR-TREATED AS AN "AUTOMATED OPERATOR"
DING DONG!

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

9					8			
5		2		7			9	
				2	5	3		
	6		4					
	8	3				2	1	
					1		3	
		7	1	4				
	9			5		7		4
			8					1

HARD

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

4	9	8	5	6	7	2	1	3
7	6	3	2	1	8	9	4	5
5	1	2	9	4	3	6	7	8
2	4	9	3	5	6	7	8	1
3	7	1	8	9	4	5	6	2
8	5	6	7	2	1	3	9	4
9	3	4	6	8	5	1	2	7
1	2	7	4	3	9	8	5	6
6	8	5	1	7	2	4	3	9

JUMBLE
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TOAQU

SULHF

GSATIM

MEGINL

Is this professional grade?
You have an excellent eye! That's our finest hammer.
THE CARPENTER SHOPPED FOR A NEW HAMMER THAT WOULD BE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Saturday's Jumbles: DEITY SLANT CANARY QUIVER
Answer: After Apollo 11 touched down on the Moon, the astronauts could — "SEA" TRANQUILITY

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CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Saucepan's ready for cooking a snipe (3,4)
5 Credit marks? (5)
8 A craft based on fundamental duplicity (9)
9 This man invaded England (3)
10 Lay off the wine (4)
12 The sameness of unique characteristics (8)
14 Disregard one note and not another (6)
15 Prove you are the boss - as Henry VIII did (6)
17 Vegetarian, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed (8)
18 A particular feature of the Jacobite movement (4)
21 Skill acquired in regular teaching (3)
22 Thought me old-fashioned about it (9)
24 School fees? (5)
25 Ostentatious displays of military strength (7)

DOWN

1 Steps - quiet ones (5)
2 Acrobatic bird may turn upside-down (3)
3 Carry a load of despondency (4)
4 Tried a form of abuse (6)
5 Having an occupation (8)
6 Abstemious in Europe for example (9)
7 Roamed the street with ready change (7)
11 Band controller for a current transmitter (9)
13 Old warships with three sets of propellers (8)
14 A second coffee maybe (7)
16 Supported by arms or threatened by them? (4,2)
19 Perhaps some go round a number of ways (5)
20 It may guide a traveller around deserts (4)
23 Hal stopped with him (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Bondsmen, 5 Onus, 9 Thumb, 10 Inhabit, 11 Artesian well, 13 Allure, 14 Season, 17 In single file, 20 Timpani, 21 Ideal, 22 Rear, 23 Contests.

Down: 1 Bite, 2 Neutral, 3 Subterranean, 4 Elicit, 6 Noble, 7 Settling, 8 Change of diet, 12 Banister, 15 Solders, 16 Albino, 18 Samba, 19 Ills.

The Mines and Geology Department has proposed to introduce a single-window system to expedite the process of clearing applications for various mining projects. The speedy approval will help investors start the project early and generate employment.

91% felt safe after taking Covishield vaccine: Survey

Over 79% were anxious; hospital also analyses side-effects

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

IT is a reassuring figure -- 91% felt safe after taking the Covishield vaccine -- as per a survey. The healthcare workers said that the public can take the vaccine without any hesitancy.

The survey was done on Covid vaccine feedback at the Ramaiah Memorial Hospital, which involved 417 respondents. However, nearly 79% of those surveyed have stated they were anxious about taking the vaccine.

The respondents in the survey included doctors, staff nurses, paramedical staff, research staff, supervisors, students, admin staff and administrators. Out of the 93.8% who had their first shot of the vaccine, 6.2% had not got the shot due to various reasons like fear, side effects and pregnancy.

While out of the 93.8%, around 92.5% were satisfied with all the precautions taken by the vaccinator and organization, 7.50% did not feel safe.

The hospital also analysed the side effects of the vaccine on individuals. It was noted that over 53.1% did not encounter any side effects. While 20.4% had tenderness, pain and warmth, 18.9% had chills and felt feverish, including a small group who complained of swelling, lump and redness at the injection site.

Dr Naresh Shetty, president of Ramaiah Memorial Hospital, said that so far 2,000 people have taken the vaccination and the survey was carried out amongst 400 odd beneficiaries.

"Many of us have taken the Covishield vaccine. It is a great relief to see so many without any side effects. However, some of them had some mild to moderate reactions. We could safely say that the vaccine is quite safe and public at large can be reassured. We are now looking at the presence of antibodies in patients who have taken vaccination two weeks ago," he said.

Talking about the anxiety in 74.9% of the beneficiaries, Dr Shetty said people will feel better after the second shot where their anxiety will have reduced. "There are a total of 3,500 who have to be vaccinated in our hospital. Of them, 2,000 have been vaccinated. Those who did not turn up are pregnant or lactating mothers. And others have not taken the vaccine due to fear. However, in the second round, those who had the shot did not have any adverse reactions. It's safe, people will come forward to take the jab and the fear will reduce," he said.

Dr Shetty said another reason for people missing out on the vaccination was due to the glitches in the CoWIN app. "Initially, we had many problems due to duplication of names, or names would not show up and the app would not open, which would cause delays. However, now, it is functioning better," he said.

A health worker gets ready to inoculate frontline workers as part of the vaccination programme, in Bengaluru on Sunday | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

> Many of us have taken the Covishield vaccine. It is a great relief to see so many without any side effects. However, some of them had some mild reactions
>
> Dr Naresh Shetty, president of Ramaiah Memorial Hospital

Mixopathy: Docs threaten to intensify stir

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE relay hunger strike by the members of the Indian Medical Association, Karnataka state branch, entered its seventh day in Bengaluru on Sunday. They have been protesting against what they call 'mixopathy' (allowing Ayush doctors to perform allopathy). The medicos condemned the "poaching on modern medicine and its surgical disciplines by the Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM)."

The CCIM's notification authorises post-graduate practitioners in specified streams of Ayurveda to perform general surgical procedures.

Dr K Srinivasa, spokesperson for IMA Karnataka, said, "Mixing different forms of healthcare is risky and surgeries cannot be done on half-baked knowledge."

"A minimum of 20 doctors will be on hunger strike each day till February 14, with doctors from Bidar, Bagalkot and Raichur having participated on Sunday. The struggle will be long drawn and if there is no response from the state or central government by the 14th, we will decide on methods to intensify the protest," he said.

The strike is seeing doctors from all districts coming to the city to protest in rotation. They have submitted memorandums to the deputy commissioners of their respective districts, the health department and other officials.

The doctors practising modern medicine are also opposed to certain clauses in the National Medical Commission Bill, 2019. According to the Bill, the Commission may grant limited licence to practise medicine at mid-level as Community Health Provider to such person connected with modern scientific medical profession who qualifies such criteria as may be specified by the regulations.

"The other clause IMA has taken objection to is a six-month bridge course, which Ayurvedic practitioners can take, post which they can practise modern medicine in rural areas. This is detrimental to the public," Dr Srinivas added.

Over 28,000 frontline workers set to receive vaccination in Mysuru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

EVEN as the first phase of the Covid-19 vaccination drive for healthcare workers is yet to meet its target, authorities are all set to kick off the next phase from Monday.

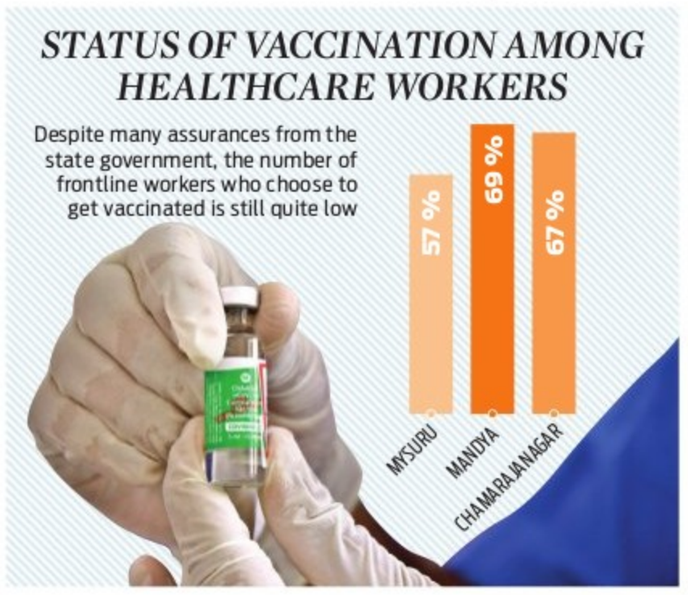
For the drive, 16,567 frontline workers from Mysuru, 8,046 from Mandya and 3,832 from Chamarajanagar have been registered on the Co-WIN portal, as per official figures.

Notably, the numbers include 4,065 ULB workers, including 3,200 pourakarmikas from Mysuru city. However, the largest contingent is from police and other forces which comprises 7,979 personnel from Mysuru, 2,480 from Mandya and 1,490 from Chamarajangar. Similarly, the list comprises 4,523 personnel from the revenue department in Mysuru, 4,644 in Mandya and 2,230 in Chamarajanagar. Taking into account the reluctance among among many healthcare workers to get the jab, the Mysuru City Corporation has started sensitising them about it for the past many days.

As per authorities, the vaccination drive is proposed to be finished in three days but accounting for the pace of vaccination among healthcare workers, the process is expected to take longer.

Meanwhile, the vaccination of healthcare workers in the districts continue to lag with Mysuru achieving just 57 per cent of vaccinations against its target of 36,664 while Chamarajanagar achieved 67 per cent vaccination and Mandya faring better with 69 per cent vaccination.

It may be recalled that the vaccination drive was launched on January 16 and the workers who got the first dose of the jab are set to come back for the second dose from February 14.


STATUS OF VACCINATION AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS
Despite many assurances from the state government, the number of frontline workers who choose to get vaccinated is still quite low
57 %
69 %
67 %
MYSURU
MANDYA
CHAMARAJANAGAR

EXPRESS READ

Pandemic hits greenery in state

Mangaluru: In a big loss to the state's green cover, the government has drastically reduced the allocation for the development wing of the forest department which mainly takes up tree plantation on forest land, roadsides, and on government and private lands. This means there will be absolutely no trees planted in forests and roadsides during 2021-22 while farmers will get just a few tree saplings as compared to past years. Every year, the government would allocate approximately Rs 100 crore for plantation activity with which the forest department used to raise a variety of seedlings in its nurseries. ENS

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ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
೧೦೦ ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ಆಧುನಿಕ ಮಾಡ್ಯೂಲರ್ ಐ.ಸಿ.ಯು.
ಆರ್. ಐ. – ಪಿ. ಸಿ. ಆರ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
ಉದ್ಘಾಟನಾ ಸಮಾರಂಭ
8 ಫೆಬ್ರವರಿ 2021 ಸಮಯ: ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10:15 ಸ್ಥಳ: ಕೆ. ಸಿ. ಜನರಲ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಎಸ್. ಯಡಿಯೂರಪ್ಪ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳಾದ ಡಾ. ಸಿ. ಎನ್ ಅಶ್ವಥ್ ನಾರಾಯಣ್ ಅವರಿಂದ ಮಾಡ್ಯುಲರ್ ICU ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಡಾ. ಕೆ ಸುಧಾಕರ್ ಅವರು ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕುರಿತು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಚರ್ಚಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು

- ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊಟ್ಟ ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಒಂದೇ ಸೂರಿನಡಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಹೊಸ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕತೆ ನೆರವಿನಿಂದ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವ ಅತ್ಯಾಧುನಿಕ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಆಧುನಿಕ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದ ನೆರವಿನಿಂದ ವೈದ್ಯರು ತಾವಿರುವ ಸ್ಥಳದಿಂದಲೇ ಕಾಯಿಲೆ ಬಾಧಿತರ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿಗಾ ಇರಿಸುವ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ದೂರದಿಂದಲೇ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಸಲಹೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಡಬಹುದು. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಇದು 'ರಿಮೋಟ್ ಐ.ಸಿ.ಯು.' ಆಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಹಾಸಿಗೆಯು ವೆಂಟಿಲೇಟರ್ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಉತ್ಕೃಷ್ಟ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಮಾನಿಟರ್, ಹೈ ಡೆನ್ಸಿಟಿ ಕ್ಯಾಮೆರಾ, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಬೆಡ್ ಹೆಡ್ ಪ್ಯಾನೆಲ್ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ.

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸೇವೆಗಾಗಿ ಸಮರ್ಪಣೆ

ನಾಗರಿಕರಿಗೆ ಒಂದೇ ಸೂರಿನಡಿ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಧ್ಯೇಯದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಅತ್ಯಾಧುನಿಕ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕತೆಯಿಂದ ಕೂಡಿದ ಮಾಡ್ಯೂಲರ್ ಐಸಿಯು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಬಂಧುಗಳು ಅಗತ್ಯ ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇದರ ಸದುಪಯೋಗ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿ ಕೋರಿಕೆ.

"ನಮ್ಮ ವೈವಿಧ್ಯಮಯ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಂಪರೆಯನ್ನು ಗೌರವಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಪಾಡುವುದು" – ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಭಾರತೀಯನ ಸಂವಿಧಾನಬದ್ಧ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ.

ಕೋವಿಡ್-19. ಆತಂಕ ಬೇಡ; ಮುನ್ನೆಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ ಇರಲಿ.
ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಧರಿಸಿ | 6 ಅಡಿ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ಅಂತರ ಪಾಲಿಸಿ | ಕೈಗಳ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

Healthcare delivery in India is poised to undergo a change at all stages -- prevention, diagnosis and treatment -- said President Ramnath Kovind on Sunday. He was addressing the 23rd annual convocation ceremony of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

The S Syndicate in Congress

Two leaders whose name begins with S -- and who is more powerful? The Karnataka Youth Congress polls have ruffled quite a few feathers within the party. So much so that rumblings about a 'syndicate' - attempting to control everything in the Congress - that was being discussed behind closed doors, is now being spoken about publicly. Congressmen refer to Siddaramaiah and his faction as the 'Syndicate', implying that despite D K Shivakumar being the KPCC chief, this group attempts to exercise as much control as possible. The most recent attempt being the disqualification of Nalapad from IYC president polls after counting of votes revealed that he polled the highest votes. The development, Congress insiders say, has further deepened the wedge between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar.

Chat pe charcha!

What happens when two rival leaders chat? Eyebrows will be raised. That is what happened when at a recent event held in Vijayapura, BJP MLA Basangouda Patil Yatnal was found engrossed in a conversation with former CM H D Kumaraswamy. The chat between the two rivals was so intense that it looked as if Yatnal, who had been criticising CM Yediyurappa openly of late, may soon switch to JDS, the party which he once was a member. However, a local leader was not at all impressed by the duo's friendly talk and called Mr Y a chameleon who would not be entertained by any political parties other than the BJP.

The long and 'shot' of it!

"Don't grab a person's legs and pull him down...like in Kabaddi." This was Minor Irrigation Minister J C Madhuswamy at the Tumakuru government employees' sports meet on Saturday. The minister might have remembered his portfolios being changed four times in a span of nine days in the reshuffle recently. He had even decided to put in his papers! However, he got back his favourite portfolio of Minor Irrigation. He holds a record of sorts for having his portfolios changed so many times! On Saturday, when he was asked to inaugurate the sports meet - Madhuswamy threw the shot put a distance of 8.92 metres, thereby creating another record!

EXPRESS READ

Council chief polls: Congress to field Nasir Ahmed

Bengaluru: With the Legislative Council chairman polls to be held on Tuesday, the Congress has decided to field MLC Nasir Ahmed as its candidate on Monday only to send a message that as a national party, it will not give up without a fight. In the 75-member House, the Congress has 29 members, followed by BJP (31), JDS (13) and one Independent. One seat is vacant. JDS MLC Basavaraj Horatti is likely to be elected given the agreement between the JDS and BJP.

Siddu gives Kuruba convention a miss

Cong leader caught between community, his AHINDA image; He turned wary after murmurs of RSS-BJP role in rally

Traffic was thrown out of gear near Madawara on the outskirts of Bengaluru due to the Kuruba convention on Sunday. Vehicles had piled up till Nelamangala; (inset) participants at the meet | ASHISHKRISHNA H P

ANUSHA RAVI @ Bengaluru

THE three-week-long 'padayatra' demanding the Scheduled Tribe status to the Kuruba community ended in a massive convention in Bengaluru on Sunday where lakhs from the community gathered.

While leaders of the Kuruba community, cutting across party lines shared the stage and displayed a show of strength for the community's demand, the most-popular Kuruba leader in Karnataka -- Siddaramaiah – gave the convention a miss. The leader's reluctance, his close aides said, stems from his internal tussle between his status as the natural mass leader of Kurubas versus the carefully-crafted image of an AHINDA (Acronym for Minorities, Backward Classes and Dalits) leader.

"It is with Siddaramaiah's support that we as Congress leaders can mobilise such a large number of Kurubas and lead the demand for the ST tag. He even participated in a few initial gatherings, but ever since there have been murmurs of the RSS-BJP attempting to use this agitation to destabilise his support base among other communities, he has chosen to remain distant," said H M Revanna, a senior Congress leader and one of the prominent faces of the agitation.

Sources close to Siddaramaiah attest to the sentiment. "It is a very sticky situation. On one hand, if he endorses the demand actively, then other communities that look up to him as their leader will be miffed. On the other hand, if he does not endorse the demand, Kurubas will be disappointed. It's a Catch-22 situation. Eshwarappa is utilising this opportunity to claim unquestioned support of the community to craft his son's future," a close aide of Siddaramaiah said.

With animosity against Siddaramaiah from Vokkaligas within Congress already on the rise thanks to his cold war with KPCC president and Vokkaliga heavyweight D K Shivakumar, the Congress Legislature Party leader is treading cautiously lest he loses popularity with any other community, especially after Youth Congress election process has left Muslim cadres too miffed with him. His decision to stay away from the convention was, according to his aides, a step to ward off murmurs of him catering only to the needs of the Kuruba community while claiming to be an AHINDA leader.

Padayatra: Panchamsali seer arrives in Sira

Chitradurga/Sira: The padayatra, demanding 2A reservation for the Panchamsali community, on Sunday reached Sira taluk of Tumakuru and will move to Chikkanayakanahalli taluk on Monday. The 'sea of people' will thereafter proceed to Bengaluru, said Panchamsali seer Basava Jayamruthyunjaya Swamiji. "We have been demanding that the CM give a statement on the timeline needed for receiving the report from Backward Classes Commission," he said. Meanwhile, Vachananda Swamiji of Harihar Gurupeet, continued his padayatra, for the same cause.

Now, Upparas too raise their demand for quota

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

WHEN Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa is already facing the heat from two prominent communities -- Panchamsali Lingayats demanding 2A quota and the Kuruba community ST reservation --- another dominant backward caste, Upparas, have now pitched for Scheduled Caste tag. Both the Panchamsalis and the Kurubas are on separate padayatras demanding reservation. Now, the Uppara community leaders have decided to take to the streets urging the government and the PM to consider their decades-old demand.

The Uppara community, numbering about 25 lakh, is spread in central, old Mysuru and Mumbai Karnataka region. The community leaders from across the state have joined hands to launch protests once the ethnographic study on Upparas is completed and the report is submitted to the government. They claim they have distinctive culture, live in geographical isolation outside the main village and are socially and economically backward.

Uppara leader Jaganath Sagar said that the expert committee from Kannada University constituted by Devaraj Urs Research Centre has toured eight districts and will now visit Mysuru and Chamarajanagar. The panel members will visit Uppara hamlets for three days from February 15. He said they have appealed to the community to share information with the experts as they have missed the SC tag despite the S Bangarappa government recommending to the Centre.

> **While the Mundala and Kusha among Upparas were included in the SC list in coastal districts, those in the other districts did not get the tag**
>
> Shiva Kumar, Youth Leader

Sagar justified their demand as the education ratio is less than 40 per cent as they all work as agricultural labourers. Somashekar, retired engineer, said that the socio-economic condition of Upparas is worse than the Bovi community that has managed to gain from getting the SC tag. While the LG Havanur Commission report had noted that the community, engaged in salt making and working as agriculture labourers, were 100% illiterate and live in villages where there were no basic facilities, the Venkataswamy Commission had also observed that the Upparas were educationally and economically backward.

Valmiki seer seeks 9.5% reservation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Davanagere

PRASANNANANDA Puri Swami of Valmiki Gurupeet, Rajanahalli, on Sunday said that he is optimistic of Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa announcing an increase in reservation for the community from the current 3.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent during the two-day Valmiki Jatre programme that begins on Monday.

The seer told reporters on the premises of the mutt that the community was expected to get 7.5 per cent reservation based on the 2001 census.

"But if we consider the 2021 census, the reservation percentage should be 8-9.5%. We will put pressure on the government. The population of the community increases every year, and the reservation too should go up proportionately as per the Constitutional requirement," he said.

"What is important for our struggle now is to first get 7.5 per cent reservation and then seek an increase. In case the government fails to agree to our demand, the gathering at the jatre will decide the future course of our agitation and ensure that the community gets its due," he added.

The third annual Valmiki Jatre begins at Rajanahalli near here on Monday, in which various conventions, including the Scheduled Tribes Employees' Association annual meet, will be held.

Actors Sudeep, Shashikumar and others will take part on the second day of the jatre.

CLEARING AIR

'Govt not taking over pvt temples'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Udupi

MINISTER for Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments Kota Srinivas Poojary has made it clear that the State Government has no intention of taking over the administration of privately-managed temples. Rubbishing rumours, he told reporters that the then State Government in 2011 had passed an order to register private temples under the Endowments Act. The government in 2015 had ordered for mandatory registering of privately-managed temples. Accordingly, every year a reminder is sent to such temples. "But, I have given instructions to stop sending such reminders to temples as it is causing confusion," he said.

On Sapthapadi, a mass marriage programme initiated by his department, he said that they had received 1,500 applications for the scheme before the Covid-19 pandemic. Most of the marriages have been performed by the department. More applications have been received during the pandemic, he said. "Officials have been asked to fix 4-5 muhurats every month and conduct the marriages. Five, six and six muhurats have been fixed in March, April and May respectively," he said.

No rift between me, Nalapad: New Youth Cong prez Raksha Ramaiah

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

THE election commission of the party has disqualified 47,000 votes cast during the State Youth Congress election, and it is still being sorted out as to why these votes were not counted, newly-elected Karnataka Youth Congress president Raksha Ramaiah told TNIE on Sunday.

"The recount is yet to happen and the Congress election commission at the national level has taken up the issue," he said.

"Since the announcement has already been made, I take over as president officially. The date will be set and we are seeking permission to organise the oath-taking ceremony outside Bengaluru. Youth Congress members carried out a recce on Thursday and are looking at a location in central Karnataka, mostly in Davanagere or Ballari. Traditionally, the ceremony is conducted in Bengaluru, but this time it will be away from the capital to allow Youth Congress members from these parts to integrate better with the party," he added.

Raksha Ramaiah greeting former chief minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday

Asked about the perceived rift between him and defeated Youth Congress president post contestant Mohammed Nalapad, he said, "I know Nalapad 'anna' well and we have worked together. The issue of disqualification was doing the rounds for about two months and the issue is going to be sorted out internally. It is not true that Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah and Congress president D K Shivakumar supported different candidates for the Youth Congress president's post."

Asked about the weak social media wing of the party, Raksha, who worked with the team nationally before resigning to contest the Youth Congress president election, said, "I would like to ensure that Youth Congress workers are integrated with the quick response team to respond to challenges, including those on social media."

On getting tickets for Youth Congress leaders to contest elections, he said it is important for them to get experience of contesting in polls, and party cadres will be encouraged to participate in the upcoming ZP and BBMP polls.

KPCC president D K Shivakumar on Sunday denied that there are factions within Youth Congress. "They are all our boys. We need to pool in our efforts and work towards making Karnataka BJP mukt," he added.

BELAGAVI BYPOLL

Kavatagimath BJP favourite for LS ticket

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Bengaluru

TO retain the Belagavi Lok Sabha seat for the fourth time in a row, the BJP has a tough task of picking a consensus candidate for the upcoming bypoll.

Party MLC **Mahantesh Kavatagimath** has now emerged as the frontrunner, while over 10 candidates are in the race, who are trying to pull strings with BJP top leaders in New Delhi and RSS satraps in Nagpur.

Despite pressure to field a family member of former Union Minister late Suresh Angadi, whose death necessitated the bypoll for the Belagavi seat, BJP bosses in Delhi are said to be averse to it. They have also made it clear that no family member of any of the party leaders, whether it is Angadi or Ministers Jagadish Shettar and Umesh Katti, would be fielded. Kavatgimath stands a better chance as he is an experienced politician besides being an MLC. He is also from the dominant Lingayat community and is known to have cordial relations with the RSS and BJP top brass.

Kavatagimath, whose MLC term is ending in 5-7 months, said that he will contest if the party picks him. But the party may not want to rush with its decision. Some of the others in the race are Dr Girish Sonwalkar, Dr Ravi Patil, Shankargouda Patil, M B Zirli, Dr Vishwanath Patil, Ramesh Katti, Amarnath Jarkiholi and Shradha Angadi, daughter of late Suresh Angadi.

Single-window agency to clear mining projects

ENS @Bengaluru

THE Mines and Geology Department has proposed to introduce a single-window system to expedite the process of clearing applications for various mining projects.

The speedy approval will help investors start the project early and generate employment. The department proposes to set up two single-window clearance committees at the district and state level. If the investment is worth below Rs 5 crore, the agency headed by respective DCs will clear the applications, while projects worth over ₹5 crore will be given the approval by the committee headed by Mines and Geology Minister Murugesh R Nirani. Now, investors have to get no-objection certificates from four departments.

Nirani has proposed that projects approved through single window clearance panels be sent to nationalised banks.

V-DAY BASH

VVIPs from Delhi to land in Bengaluru for wedding of DKS daughter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A GALAXY of VVIPs from New Delhi are expected to descend upon Bengaluru on Valentine's Day. And you may wonder why. On February 14, there will be a big fat wedding where two prominent political leaders of Karnataka are all set to have closer ties. Karnataka Congress unit president D K Shivakumar's daughter **Aishwarya** will wed **Amartya Siddhartha**, grandson of former chief minister S M Krishna.

The VVIPs expected include Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, party General Secretary K C Venugopal, party veteran Randeep Surjewala and many Union ministers. From Karnataka, most of the political biggies including Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, the Deputy Chief Ministers and a host of ministers are expected to attend the wedding, having received personal invites from Krishna who is now in the BJP.

Amartya is son of CCD founder late V G Siddhartha and Malavika, who is the daughter of Krishna. Amartya has been overseeing the company affairs.

The couple will get married at an auspicious time on Valentine's Day at a private hotel in Bengaluru. The reception is scheduled to be held on February 17, again at a private hotel in Bengaluru.

The venue has been fixed and both sides have distributed invitations. And the invites from Shivakumar have been restricted to 800 for the wedding and 1,400 for the reception keeping in mind that numbers have to be kept down due to Covid-19.

Krishna has been mostly inviting by way of personal letters over the past few days. He too has kept the number of invites down. Strict Covid norms will be in place with social distancing, masks and sanitizers, the organizers said. The logistics, decorations and food arrangements are being worked out by the organisers considering the magnitude. The couple had got engaged on November 19, 2020, at the residence of Krishna, where only close family members were invited.

The HAL police have nabbed a woman and her friend for allegedly threatening an elderly couple, and not paying rent of Rs 1.5 crore. They are identified as Bhavana and Vishal. Bhavana had rented a building in Kundalahalli from the couple. However, she had failed to pay rent for several months since 2019. She allegedly threatened the owner, who demanded rent, of booking a fake rape case against him

'Cops patrolling on foot will curb crimes better'

Experts opine the police commissioner must reintroduce it, especially in residential areas

MANJU SHETTAR @ Bengaluru

TO protect lone pedestrians and riders from mugging and other attacks in the dead of night, security experts have suggested that police foot patrolling be restarted across the city, alongside motorised patrolling which has been in vogue over the last few years.

The suggestion comes at a time when many have lost jobs amid the Covid pandemic, and there is an understanding that a degree of desperation among the youth who have been laid off could have led to a rise in crime, and that the police need to be better prepared to prevent it by improving methods of on-ground patrolling. In police foot patrol, the constabulary kept vigil in their respective areas in pairs, with one of them carrying a rifle. The system was stopped a few years ago in preference for two-wheeler Cheetah and four-wheeler Hoysala patrols.

Foot patrolling which was the trend in the 1980s and 90s in Bengaluru had become quite popular among citizens as the presence of the police provided a higher degree of security to them. In many cases, the citizens offered food and water to the patrolling policemen and a sense of bonding had emerged between the constabulary and the citizens, according to several residents familiar with the patrolling then.

Sangram Singh, a retired Assistant Commissioner of Police, told The New Indian Express, "Robberies and thieveries, besides petty crimes and chain-snatching, increase in the absence of foot patrolling. Patrolling has become sophisticated and miscreants have no fear of committing any type of crime."

Singh said foot patrolling could help control crimes. Many policemen involved in Cheetah and Hoysala patrols tend to waste time while patrolling, he pointed out. "An ASI and a constable have to be deployed for foot patrolling every day instead of going on bikes. The police commissioner has to consider this very important and introduce it again," he said.

Experts said that foot patrolling needs to be reintroduced especially in areas with higher residential presence, like Jalahalli, Rajajinagar or Malleswaram, which tend to attract more criminals because of higher mobility of the vulnerable population on roads — especially women and elders.

"Foot patrolling drills in some level of fear and deterrence among criminals targeting lone walkers at night," a senior police official said.

BB Ashok Kumar, a retired ACP, felt, "Miscreants get easily alerted when policemen on Hoysala or Cheetah patrol move around with siren. There is a higher chance of them escaping on hearing sirens or hooters."

Policemen on foot patrols instill fear among crininals targeting lone walkers at night, feel experts | MEGHANA SASTRY

Counsellors needed as schools reopen: Psychologists

PEARL MARIA DSOUZA @ Bengaluru

PARENTS and students, who were distanced from school counsellors during the pandemic, may need a few counselling sessions now that schools are reopening, say psychologists.

"Counsellors play an important role in removing fear from the minds of parents and students. Several parents and children want offline classes restarted, but are confused. Counselling is needed for such parents and students, and also the management," said Iqbal, a Bengaluru-based counsellor.

The state helpline, Vanitha Sahayavani, got several calls from anxious parents about their children losing interest in studies. The lack of social development for students, which otherwise took place in classrooms, and departure from brick and mortar teaching has left many parents unsettled, said a counsellor from the helpline.

Shashi Kumar, General Secretary, Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka, said that except a few elite schools, most institutions do not have counsellors. "It is practicality unviable to appoint in-house counsellors. Most schools refer students to outside counsellors," he added.

Parents said that now with pre-board examinations starting in various schools in February, counsellors are needed.

"Before Covid, parents would meet counsellors and talk about a child's issues. Experts were called for talks on how to manage the screen time of students, and it's ironic that now all academic activity is on screen," said Shakeel A, a parent.

But many schools have put on hold the services of several schools staffers, including counsellors. A counsellor with an ICSE school in the city said although the service was not suspended, it was put on hold. "Over the pandemic, the number of students approaching me for problems had reduced. Now with classes restricted to three to four hours a day, there is said to be a lack of time, hence counselling has been suspended," said the counsellor.

HABITAT PROTECTION

Around 300 people residing around Turahalli Forest come together in protest against the proposed 'Tree Park' project in the forest, in Bengaluru on Sunday | MEGHANA SASTRY

No anticipatory bail for former institution CEO in rape, cheating case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A city court has rejected anticipatory bail to the former CEO of Sri Jagadguru Murugharajendra Vidyapeetha (SJMVP) in a rape and cheating case.

A 32-year-old woman had filed a case against MG Doreswamy and three others in RMC Yard police station on January 15. She had stated that she had approached SJMVP in August 2019 and proposed to create 'Cyber Safe Campus' awareness among students. In the process, she had come in contact with Doreswamy, who was the CEO. He had allegedly claimed to be a divorcee. In October 2019, he had brought her to Bengaluru on some official work and took her to a five-star hotel in Yashwantpur, where he allegedly raped her for two days, promising to marry her.

"Claiming that he had recorded the incident, he sexually abused me on several occasions. When I started requesting him to marry me, he started avoiding me. He, along with three others, also threatened me with dire consequences," she had stated in the complaint.

Doreswamy and the three other suspects had moved an anticipatory bail petition before the City Civil and Sessions Court. The 54th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge, on Friday, rejected anticipatory bail to the prime accused, while granting conditional bail to the other three.

Sources said that Doreswamy's wife had also filed a complaint with Chitradurga Town police in December, accusing the complainant of blackmailing and harassing her husband.

Students worried as JEE, Second PU exams clash

PEARL MARIA DSOUZA @Bengaluru

THE Department of Pre-University Education has received close to 500 complaints for the Second PUC exam timetable. The deadline for filing of the requests for modifications closed on Saturday. The Department is now busy sorting out the complaints.

One of the major concerns of the students is that the JEE examinations are scheduled around the same time as that of Second PU. Minister of Primary and Secondary Education S Suresh Kumar had announced that the Second PU examinations will be held from May 24 to June 10.

An official told *TNIE* that should there be a change in the schedule, it would be known by Thursday.

EXPRESS READ

Schools with Halakki culture to be started in state

To preserve the culture of Halakki community, Raghaveshwara Bharathi Swamiji has started integrating it in the education of students from the community and is planning to set up such schools across the state. The students will get their traditional education, along with yoga and ayurveda, and contemporary education. Scholarships will be given to students who are unable to pay the fee. The Swamiji said that it is an attempt to save the unique culture. From June, Class 6 will begin in two gurukuls in Gokarna and students who dropped out too can attend classes. The intake will be 100 students and they will be divided into different sections.

14-yr-old survives poisoning from LPG gas geyser

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

A 14-year-old girl fell unconscious and had to be hospitalised due to exposure to toxic gas that leaked from the LPG gas geyser when she was having a bath. The incident occurred on January 11. When Akriti (name changed) spent an unusually long time in the bathroom, her parents knocked at the door, and when there was no response, they broke open the door and found her unconscious.

When she was taken to Columbia Asia Hospital, she was convulsing. "We thought that the fits could be due to a seizure disorder or an intracranial or cardiac pathology," said Dr Senthil Kumar SP, consultant paediatric, Columbia Asia Hospital, Whitefield. "But after we did a blood gas analysis, we found that there was a very high content of carbon monoxide in her blood. Her parents told us they used a LPG gas geyser," he added. LPG geysers contain butane and propane, which produce carbon dioxide and water on combustion. But when there is a lack of oxygen, combustion produces carbon monoxide, which is toxic.

What to do if you suspect gas poisoning

- Take the person away from the site to a well-ventilated area
- Turn off the source of leakage
- Take the person to the hospital immediately

"We started treatment immediately, and thereby avoided significant hypoxic injury in the brain (lack of oxygen) which could otherwise have resulted in long-term neurological disability," Dr Kumar said.

Akriti was discharged a day later and is recovering.

Trains cancelled from today

Several trains will be cancelled from Monday over work for commissioning of the Baiyappanahalli terminal. A few of them are:

FULLY CANCELLED

- MGR Chennai Central – KSR Bengaluru – MGR Chennai Central Double Decker Express Special (Train Nos.06075 / 06076)
- MGR Chennai Central – KSR Bengaluru – MGR Chennai Central Express Special (Train Nos. 06079 / 06080)

PARTIALLY CANCELLED

- KSR Bengaluru – Bhubaneswar Express (Train No. 08464) partially cancelled between KSR Bengaluru – Sri Sathya Sai Prashanthi Nilayam
- KSR Bengaluru – Mumbai CSMT Express (Train No. 01302) partially cancelled between KSR Bengaluru – Yelahanka. The train originates from Yelahanka
- KSR Bengaluru – Bangarpet MEMU Special (Train No. 06293) partially cancelled between KSR Bengaluru – Baiyappanahalli

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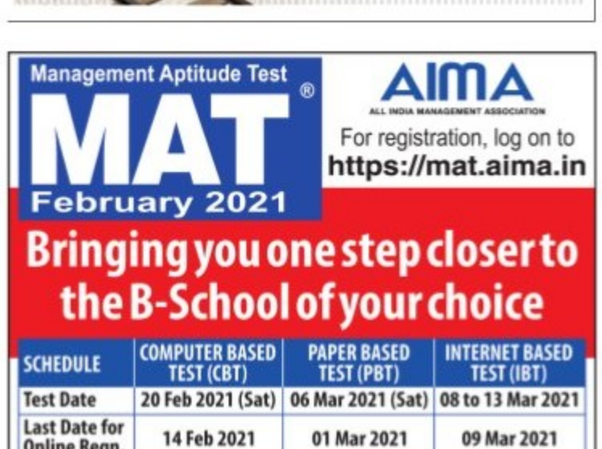
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Support Services Department, Central Office - Annex, Mangalore

NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF PROJECT ARCHITECT FORESTABLISHING STAFF TRAINING CENTRE - MANGALORE

TENDER REF. NO: CO/MNG-ANX/SSD/04/2020-21/STC-Architect. Union Bank of India invites sealed bids (in two bid system) from eligible experienced Architects / Architectural firms having office in Karnataka for appointment as Project Architect for the work of establishing Staff Training Centre - Mangalore at the Lower Ground Floor, Main Building, Central Office Annexe, Mangalore. The detailed information regarding complete scope of work, eligibility norms, terms & conditions, etc., are furnished in the tender document available on the Bank's website **www.unionbankofindia.com** and **www.eprocure.gov.in** The last date for submission of tender is **02.03.2021** till **3.00 p.m.** The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

08.02.2021 Chief Manager

CORRIGENDUM

In pursuance of the notice dt. 4.2.21 caused by undersigned published on 5.2.2021, this corrigendum is caused.

An error due to oversight has crept in as a result of which the measurement (extent) of the property together with the boundaries - are incorrect and may please be deleted / ommitted. Rest of the contents of the schedule remains unchanged and holds good.

SYED ABDUL SABOOR, Advocate
L2-05,1st Floor, Splendid Plaza, 4th Cross, 2nd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-43. Mobile: 9980605646
Date : 08-02-2021

IN THE COURT OF THE CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, BENGALURU

C.Misc No.5331/2020

BETWEEN:

1. **Sri. Nanjunda,** Aged about 40 years, S/o. Late Muniyappa
2. **Sri. Muniraju,** Aged about 36 years, S/o. Late Muniyappa

Both are R/at No.224, Near Muneshwara Temple, 6th Cross, Jakkur Village, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. ...PETITIONERS

AND:

THE TAHASILDAR The Registrar of Birth and Deaths Bangalore North (Addl.) Taluk, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru- 560 064 ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the above case the petitioner has filed the petition under section 13(3) of Births & Deaths Act 1969 for issue of the death certificate of petitioner's grand father **Sri. Nanjudappa,** S/o. Late Basaiah, was died on **01.04.1963** at Jakkur Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. If any parties who have got any objections with regard to issue of Death Certificate may appear before the Hon'ble CMM, Bangalore **on 12.03.2021 at about 11.00 A.M.**

Given under my hand and seal of the Court dated this the 06th day of February 2021.

By order of the Court
Sd/- Sheristhedar
CMM Court, Bengaluru

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I

No.4, 'Jeevan Mangal', LIC Building, Opp. Cash Pharmacy, Residency Road, Bangalore-25.

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 283/2020

BETWEEN:

CANARA BANK, Bommasandra Main Branch, Bangalore-560099. ...APPLICANT

AND:

M/s GLOBAL FILTRATION CLEAN TECHNOLOGY INDIA PVT LTD.,
Represented by its Partners
1. Mr. VINCENT XAVIER
2. Smt. K. CHANDRA LEKHA

...DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS

SUMMONS/NOTICE TO DEFENDANT ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

1. **Sri VINCENT XAVIER,** S/o Sri. J. Vincent Partner: **GLOBAL FILTRATION CLEAN TECHNOLOGY (I) PVT. LTD.,** No. 254, A-1, Shed No.1, First Floor, Third Phase, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, BENGALURU-560099.
Also at: No. 145-B, Priyadarshini Petrol Bunk, Complex, 3rd Cross, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, BENGALURU-560099.
Also at: No. 121, Industrial Area Bommasandra Industrial Area Development BGoard (KIADBI, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, BENGALURU-560099.
Residing at: No. 5/26, 7th Cross, Bhavani Nagar, S.G. Palya, BENGALURU-560029.
Also at: No.5/38, First Floor, First Main, 8th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madivala, Bengaluru.
2. **SMT. CHANDRA LEKHA** W/o Sri. KAVI DOSS Partner: **GLOBAL FILTRATION CLEAN TECHNOLOGY (I) PVT. LTD.,** No. 254, A-1, Shed No.1, First Floor, Third Phase, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, BENGALURU-560099.
Also at: No. 145-B, Priyadarshini Petrol Bunk, Complex, 3rd Cross, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, BENGALURU-560099.
Also at: No. 121, Industrial Area Bommasandra Industrial Area Development BGoard (KIADB), Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, BENGALURU-560099.
Residing at: No. S-705, K.C.C. Nagar, China Elasagiri Second Phase, Bangalore Road, Hosur-635109 Tamil Nadu State.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against both of you for recovery of the sum of **Rs.58,18,576/-** together with current and future interest and other reliefs. You are hereby require to show cause before this Tribunal **on 7-5-2021 at 11.00 a.m.** in the forenoon in person or by an Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take summons that in the event of default the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this the 19th day of January 2021.

By Order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-1, Bengaluru.

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

AFFIDAVIT

I, **VIJAY KUMAR,** S/o MUNNILAL, Aged about 61 years, Permanetly R/at No.533, Sikandarpur, Sikandarpur Gram Post, Chandauli, Chakia, Uttarpradesh- 232103 now at Bengaluru. Hereby declare that, my name has entered in Aadhaar card & Voter I.D. card as **"VIJAY KUMAR".** But in Driving Licence my name has mentioned as **"NAND LAL",** hence the above names are one and the same and it refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 20.05.2019 sworn before Advocate and Notary Smt. K.C. Shashikala Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, SHIRANTHI VAZ, aged about 45 yrs, W/o Mr. Jaganathan Jenistan, residing at # B-305, Nagarjuna Greenwood Apartment, Kariyammana Agrahara Layout, Kadubeesanahalli, Bengaluru-560103, hereby inform to all the General Public that my name and surname **"SINGARAYAPPA VAZ SHIRANTHI VAZ"** and **"SHIRANTHI VAZ"** both are one and the same. In this regard, I have sworn an affidavit dated 06/02/2021 at Bangalore before the notary advocate Shri.P.Nanjunda.

Indian Bank — Branch: Vijayanagar (EAB) Bangalore

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank — इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

N 24, JLR Plaza, NHBC Society, Nagarbhavi Main Road, Saraswathi Nagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore – 560040, TEL - (080) 23408893, email: v525@indianbank.co.in

NOTICE OF INTENDED SALE

Notice of intended sale under Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules) 2002 under The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

To, M/s SP &Co (Proprietor Sri P. Lokesh, (Borrower) I): #4218/35,19th main, Subramanyanagar, Rajaji nagar ii stage,Bangalore-560021 **ii)**10,14th main, AGS Layout,subramanya post,Bangalore-560061, **iii)** 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072. **1) Sri P. Lokesh** S/o Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Borrower)(propieter of M/s SP & Co) i):** # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072, **ii):** Flat No. 203. B Block, Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore-560065. **2) Sri P. Kumaraswamy** S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Guarantor and Mortgagor) I):** # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072. **iii).** Flat No. 203. B Block, Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore-560065. **3)Mrs Harshitha alias S Mamatha** W/o P Kumaraswamy **(Guarantor and mortgagor)** I): # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072, ii): Flat No. 203. B Block, Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore- 560065. **5) Mrs Hema alias Sowmya** W/o P Lokesh **(Guarantor and mortgagor)** I): # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072 ii): Flat No. 203. B Block, Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore- 560065

Sub: CC Loan account – M/s SP & Co (Proprietor Sri P. Lokesh S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower & Mortgagors) with Indain Bank (E Allahabad Bank) Vijayanagar, Bangalore M/s SP & Co(Proprietor Sri P. Lokesh S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, availed Cash Credit Facility from Indain Bank (E Allahabad Bank) Vijayanagar, Bangalore Branch, the repayment of which is secured by Mortgage of schedule mentioned properties hereinafter referred to as "the Properties" M/s SP & Co(Proprietor Sri P. Lokesh S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower),P.Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Guarantors/Mortgagors) Mrs Harshitha alias S Mamatha W/o PKumaraswamy **(Guarantor and mortgagor), Mrs Hema alias Sowmya** W/o P Lokesh (Guarantor and mortgagor failed to pay the outstanding dues to the Bank. Therefore a Demand Notice dated **28.02.2020** under Sec. 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (for short called as "The Act"), was issued by the Authorized Officer calling upon **M/s SP & Co(Proprietor Sri P. Lokesh** S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Borrower), P. Kumaraswamy** S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Guarantors/Mortgagors) Mrs Harshitha alias S Mamatha** W/o PKumaraswamy **(Guarantor and mortgagor), Mrs Hema alias Sowmya** W/o P Lokesh **(Guarantor and mortgagor)** liable to the Bank to pay the amount due to the tune of **Rs.77,43,449.00** (Rupees Seventy Seven Lacs forty three Thousands four hundred and forty nine only) as on **28.02.2020** with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon. Both failed to make payment despite issuance of Demand Notice dated **28.02.2020.**

As **M/s SP & Co Proprietor Sri P. Lokesh S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower), P. Kumaraswamy** S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Guarantors/Mortgagors) Mrs Harshitha alias S Mamatha** W/o PKumaraswamy **(Guarantor and mortgagor), Mrs Hema alias Sowmya** W/o P Lokesh **(Guarantor and mortgagor)** failed to make payment despite Demand Notice, the Authorized Officer took possession of the schedule mentioned properties under the Act on **27.10.2020** after complying with all legal formalities.

As per Sec.13 (4) of the Act, Secured Creditor is entitled to effect sale of the assets taken possession of and realize the proceeds towards outstanding balance. In accordance with the same, the undersigned / Authorized Officer intends to sell the schedule mentioned securities in the following mode:

THE SALE PROPOSED TO BE HELD IS BY WAY OF PUBLIC TENDER /AUCTION ADOPTING THE e-AUCTION MODE.

As per Rule 6 (2) and 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 framed under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, 30 days notice of intended sale is required to be given and hence we are issuing this notice.

The amount due as on 05.02.2021 is Rs. 87,74,995.00 (Rupees Eighty Seven lacs Seventy four Thousands Nine Hundreds ninty five only)with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 06.02.2021.

Please take note that this is notice of 30 days and the schedule mentioned properties shall be sold under the Act by the undersigned/Authorized Officer any time after 30 days.

The date of sale is fixed as **10.03.2021** which would be by e-auction mode.

Inspection of the scheduled properties and related documents/up to date EC etc by the intending purchasers/bidders may be done at their expense on.**01.03.2021** to **06.03.2021** between **10.00 am to 4.00 pm.**

The Reserve price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the sale of the secured assets is fixed as mentioned in the schedule

The Tender/bid Form with the Terms and conditions can be had on-line from the website **(https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com)** and using the provision in the system/software. The tender form and the terms and conditions would be available in the website from **09.02.2021 to 09.03.2021 from 10.00am to 7.00 pm.**

The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are requested to register with online portal **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi)** using their mobile number and email id. Further, they are requested to upload requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days), the intending Bidders/ Purchasers have to transfer the EMD amount in his Global EMD Wallet by **09.03.2021** before the e-Auction Date and time in the portal. The registration, verification of KYC documents and transfer of EMD in wallet must be completed well in advance, before auction.

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be paid online or after generation of Challan from the website **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi)** for depositing in bidders Global EMD Wallet. NEFT transfer can be done from any Scheduled Commercial Bank. Payment of EMD by any other mode such as Cheques will not be accepted. Bidders, not depositing the required EMD online, will not be allowed to participate in the e-auction. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest.

The Authorized Officer/Bank has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/ postpone/ cancel the sale without assigning any reason therefor.

The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% (twenty five percent) of the bid amount, including EMD amount (10%) deposited, latest by the next working day and the remaining amount shall be paid within 15 days from the date of auction in the form of Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft /Account Transfer and/ or any other acceptable mode of money transfer. The Nodal Bank account no. / IFSC Code etc. for online money transfer is as under.

Nodal Bank Account No. and A/c. Name: 6096875321 e-auction EMD account, Bangalore Zone,

Branch name and IFSC Code: M G ROAD branch IDIB000M050.

In case of failure to deposit the amounts as above within the stipulated time, the amount deposited by successful bidder will be forfeited to the Bank and Authorized Officer shall have the liberty to conduct a fresh auction/ sale of the property & the defaulting bidder shall not have any claim over the forfeited amount and the property.

The sale is subject to confirmation by the Secured Creditor.

The sale is made on "As is where is and as is what is" basis and no representations and warranties are given by the Bank relating to encumbrance, Statutory liabilities etc.

If the e-auction fails owing to any technical snag etc., the same may be re-scheduled by issuing 7 days prior notice.

This Notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Secured Creditor (this portion may be retained if it is a non-suit filed account)

This Notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Secured Creditor and without prejudice to rights of the Secured Creditor to proceed with the proceedings presently pending before DRT/RO of DRT/ DRAT/ Court and proceed with the execution of order/decree obtained/to be obtained. (This portion may be retained if it is a suit filed account)

SCHEDULE: The specific details of the assets which are intended to be brought to sale are enumerated hereunder: **Details/ Description of Mortgaged Assets:** All that piece and parcel of property with land measuring393.75 sq ft and building bearing no.30, 1st main road, C- Street, Kuvemunagar, Mysore Road,Property ID 42-72-30,bbmp Ward no 42 situated at Bapuji nagar ward,new guddadahalli,Kuvempunagar mysore road-Bangalore-560026 and bounded by East : Private Property West : Common Passage 3'9""*35" North : Property of Munilakshmamma South : Road.

Reserve Price: Rs.27.50 lacs EMD: Rs.2.75 lakhs Last date 09.03.2021

Date, Time for e-auction and Property ID No.: 10.03.2021, 10.00AM-3.00PM

Property ID:IDIB0212401

Prior Encumbrance: NIL

Bidders are advised to visit the website (www.mstcecommerce.com) of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd, please contact **ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com** and for EMD status please contact **ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com.**

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: https://ibapi.in and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number **'18001025026' and '011-41106131'.**

Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with **https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com.**

Date: 06.02.2021 — **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place : Bangalore — **Indian Bank, Vijayanagar Branch**

Indian Bank — Banashankari , Bangalore Branch

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank — इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

No.297, SLJ towers, 100 ft Ring road, Near Devegowda petrole Bunk, BSK III Stage, Bangalore -560085 Phone No.080-26798444/. E-mail Address : B595@indianbank.eo.in

NOTICE OF INTENDED SALE

Notice of intended sale under Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules) 2002 under The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

To, 1) M/s Sreevaru Builders Proprietor Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Borrower & Mortgagors)** i): # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072. ii) ii): Door No. 03, M N Complex Gyanabharati Main Road, Nagerbhavi Circle, Bangalore-560072 iii). Flat No. 203. B Block, Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore-560065. 2) Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Propriertor/Borrower/Mortgagors)** I): # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072. ii): Door No. 03, M N Complex Gyanabharati Main Road,Nagerbhavi Circle, Bangalore-560072. iii). Flat No. 203. B Block,Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore-560065. **3.Sri P. Lokesh** S/o Sri Puttaswamy M, **(Guarantors/Mortgagors)** I): # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072. ii): Flat No. 203. B Block,Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore-560065. **4.Smt Mamatha** W/o Sri P. Kumaraswamy **(Guarantors)** i): # 309, Near Papyreddy Palya Bus Stop Nagerbhavi, 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560072. ii): Flat No. 203. B Block, Sai Gangothri Apartment, Ullal Main Road, Bangalore- 560065.

Sub: OCC account – M/s Sreevaru Builders (Proprietor Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower & Mortgagors) with Indain Bank (E Allahabad Bank) Banashankari, Bangalore

M/s Sreevaru Builders (Proprietor Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, availed Cash Credit Facility from Indain Bank (E Allahabad Bank) Banshankari, III Stage, Bangalore Branch, the repayment of which is secured by Mortgage of schedule mentioned properties hereinafter referred to as "the Properties" M/s Sreevaru Builders (Proprietor Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower & Mortgagors), P.Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Propriertor/Borrower/Mortgagors) , Sri P. Lokesh S/o Sri Puttaswamy M, (Guarantors/Mortgagors), Smt Mamatha W/o Sri P Kumaraswamy (Guarantors) failed to pay the outstanding dues to the Bank. Therefore a Demand Notice dated 27.02.2020 under Sec. 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (for short called as "The Act"), was issued by the Authorized Officer calling upon Mr. M/s Sreevaru Builders (Proprietor Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower & Mortgagors, P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Propriertor/Borrower/Mortgagors) , Sri P. Lokesh S/o Sri Puttaswamy M, (Guarantors/Mortgagors), Smt Mamatha W/o Sri PKumaraswamy (Guarantors), liable to the Bank to pay the amount due to the tune of Rs.78,24,331.00 (Rupees Seventy Eight Lacs twenty four Thousands Three hundred Thirty One only) as on 27.02.2020 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon. Both failed to make payment despite issuance of Demand Notice dated 27.02.2020.

As M/s Sreevaru Builders (Proprietor Sri P. Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Borrower & Mortgagors), P.Kumaraswamy S/o Late Sri Puttaswamy M, (Propriertor/Borrower/Mortgagors) , Sri P. Lokesh S/o Sri Puttaswamy M, (Guarantors/Mortgagors), Smt Mamatha W/o Sri P Kumaraswamy (Guarantors) failed to make payment despite Demand Notice, the Authorized Officer took possession of the schedule mentioned properties under the Act on **30.11.2020** after complying with all legal formalities.

As per Sec.13 (4) of the Act, Secured Creditor is entitled to effect sale of the assets taken possession of and realize the proceeds towards outstanding balance. In accordance with the same, the undersigned / Authorized Officer intends to sell the schedule mentioned securities in the following mode:

THE SALE PROPOSED TO BE HELD IS BY WAY OF PUBLIC TENDER /AUCTION ADOPTING THE e-AUCTION MODE.

As per Rule 6 (2) and 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 framed under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, 30 days notice of intended sale is required to be given and hence we are issuing this notice.

The amount due is as on 05.02.2021 is Rs. 88,41,031.00 (Rupees Eighty Eight lacs Forty One Thousands thirty one only) with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 06.02.2021.

Please take note that this is notice of 30 days and the schedule mentioned properties shall be sold under the Act by the undersigned/Authorized Officer any time after 30 days.

The date of sale is fixed as 10.03.2021 which would be by e-auction mode.

Inspection of the scheduled properties and related documents/up to date EC etc by the intending purchasers/bidders may be done at their expense on 01.03.2021 to 06.03.2021 between 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

The Reserve price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the sale of the secured assets is fixed as mentioned in the schedule

The Tender/bid Form with the Terms and conditions can be had on-line from the website **(https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com)** and using the provision in the system/software. The tender form and the terms and conditions would be available in the website from 09.02.2021 to 09.03.2021 from 10.00am to 7.00 pm.

The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are requested to register with online portal (https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi) using their mobile number and email id. Further, they are requested to upload requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days), the intending Bidders/ Purchasers have to transfer the EMD amount in his Global EMD Wallet by 09.03.2021 before the e-Auction Date and time in the portal. The registration, verification of KYC documents and transfer of EMD in wallet must be completed well in advance, before auction.

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be paid online or after generation of Challan from the website **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi)** for depositing in bidders Global EMD Wallet. NEFT transfer can be done from any Scheduled Commercial Bank. Payment of EMD by any other mode such as Cheques will not be accepted. Bidders, not depositing the required EMD online, will not be allowed to participate in the e-auction. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest.

The Authorized Officer/Bank has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/ postpone/ cancel the sale without assigning any reason therefor.

The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% (twenty five percent) of the bid amount, including EMD amount (10%) deposited, latest by the next working day and the remaining amount shall be paid within 15 days from the date of auction in the form of Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft /Account Transfer and/ or any other acceptable mode of money transfer.

The Nodal Bank account no. / IFSC Code etc. for online money transfer is as under.

Nodal Bank Account No. and A/c. Name: 6096875321 e-auction EMD account, Bangalore, Zone,

Branch name and IFS Code: Indian Bank, M G ROAD branch IDIB000M050.

In case of failure to deposit the amounts as above within the stipulated time, the amount deposited by successful bidder will be forfeited to the Bank and Authorized Officer shall have the liberty to conduct a fresh auction/ sale of the property & the defaulting bidder shall not have any claim over the forfeited amount and the property.

The sale is made on "As is where is and as is what is" basis and no representations and warranties are given by the Bank relating to encumbrance, Statutory liabilities etc.

If the e-auction fails owing to any technical snag etc., the same may be re-scheduled by issuing 7 days prior notice.

This Notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Secured Creditor and without prejudice to rights of the Secured Creditor to proceed with the proceedings presently pending before DRT/RO of DRT/ DRAT/ Court and proceed with the execution of order/decree obtained/to be obtained.

SCHEDULE: The specific details of the assets which are intended to be brought to sale are enumerated hereunder: **Details/ Description of Mortgaged Assets:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing no.30/1, 1st main road, C- Street, Kuvempunagar, Mysore Road, Bangalore- measuring 15.00 ft X 88 ft with RCC roof and ACC building and bounded by East : Rathnamma & Ramakrishnappa Property West : Private Property North : Conservancy, South : Road.

Reserve Price: Rs.80.00 lacs EMD: Rs.8.00 lakhs: Last date 09.03.2021

Date, Time for e-auction and Property ID No.: 10.03.2021 Time : 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM

Property ID: IDIB No. 212301.

Prior Encumbrance: NIL.

Bidders are advised to visit the website **(www.mstcecommerce.com)** of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd, please contact **ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com and for EMD status please contact ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com.**

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: **https://ibapi.in** and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number '18001025026' and '011-41106131'.

Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with **https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com.**

Date: 06.02.2021 — **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place : Bangalore — **Indian Bank, Banashankari Branch**

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited

H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.
Phone 26677552, 26679041

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

The Borrower Smt. P.Kamala, W/o Sri Siddellappa, R/a No.5, Old No.84, 4th A Cross, Dwarakanagar, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-85. The debt due to Bank as on 04.02.2021 of Rs.83,25,835/- + Interest & miscellaneous expenses. Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"on 15.03.2021, Monday at 11.00 am.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property Sy No.92/1, of Hosakerehalli, Converted for agricultural use vide conversion order No.B.Dis.ALN.SR (S), 447/1988-89 dt:11.04.1989 of special Deputy Commissioner Bangalore Dist, now bearing Municipal New No.5, old No.84 (92/1&2), PID No.55-243-05, Situated at 4th "A" Cross, Dwarakanagar, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore. Measuring East To West:35 feet and North To South:55 feet, in all measuring 1925 sq.ft and bounded on the East by: Drainage and Government property, West by: Property of Siddellappa, North By: Property of B.Krishnappa, South By: Road.
Constructed apartment stilt + 4 floor,

ITEM NO.1
STILT FLOOR, 2 BHK FLAT, 840 sq.ft builtup area (undivided share 240 sq.ft)
Reserve Price: Rs.34,29,750/-

ITEM NO.2
GROUND FLOOR: 2 BHK FLAT, 875 sq.ft builtup area (undivided share 240 sq.ft)
Reserve Price: Rs.34,87,125/-

ITEM NO.3
FIRST FLOOR: 2 BHK FLAT, 875 sq.ft builtup area (undivided share 240 sq.ft)
Reserve Price: Rs.34,87,125/-

ITEM NO.4
THIRD FLOOR: 2 BHK FLAT, 875 sq.ft builtup area (undivided share 240 sq.ft)
Reserve Price: Rs.34,87,125/-

ITEM NO.5
THIRD FLOOR: 2 BHK FLAT, 825 sq.ft builtup area (undivided share 240 sq.ft)
Reserve Price: Rs.34,06,375/-

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.
(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price of the property being cautioned deposit by means of Demand Draft/Pay Order drawn in favour of M/s.The Grain Merchant's Co.Operative Bank Ltd., The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.
(3) The Property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price
(4) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refund without interest.
(5) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
(6) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues/taxes/charges/property tax/electricity charges/ water charges/conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
(7) The authorized officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all if the tender or/bid/offer and/or adjourn/postpone/ cancel the auction sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
(8) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
(9) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. at his/ her expenses at the address mentioned in the schedule.
(10) The property is put for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" AND "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION" the intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title,ownership,statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 04.02.2021

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd.,

SUNDARAM HOME

Regd Office: No. 21, Pattulos Road, Chennai - 600 002.
Corporate Office: 46, Whites Road, Chennai-600014. Ph: 044-2851 5267
Branch: Old No. 1947, New No. 19, 2nd Floor, 9th Block, 28th Main, South 'D' Main Road, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 069.
Phone: 080 - 2649 3737 / 2649 4747

SALE NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of **Sundaram Home Finance Limited,** formerly known as Sundaram BNP Paribas Home Finance Limited., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assetsand Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Section 13(2), issued a demand notice calling upon the Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of notice.

The Borrower and Co-Borrower having failed to repay the amount within the statutory period, the Authorised Officer in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act in accordance with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, had taken the actual possession of the property described herein below.

Public are hereby informed that the property more fully described in the table hereunder will be sold under Rule 8 & 9 of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 in **"AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" CONDITION,** by inviting sealed tenders from the public up to 17.00 hrs on **27.02.2021.** Those who want to participate in the auction sale can forward their bids only by RPAD in sealed covers to the undersigned on or before 17.00 Hrs. on **27.02.2021.** Tenders received after 17.00 Hrs. on **27.02.2021** and thereafter will be rejected. The sealed tenders received by RPAD up to 17.00 Hrs. on **27.02.2021** will be opened on **27.02.2021** at 17.30 hrs. at the place mentioned hereunder. The successful bidder has to pay the balance amount within 15 days from the date of receipt of intimation. The sale shall be completed only on deposit of the Balance amount as stated above.

S. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower & Co-Borrower	Secured Debt (Rs.)	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Place for Title Verification
1	**Prakash M K (Borrower),** No. 27, Second Main, 2nd Block Jayanagar, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560011. **Also at:** Subhadra Transports, Shaheed Poultry Farm, Bangalore-562114. **Bhuvaneshwari M P (Co-Borrower)** No.27, Second Main, 2nd Block Jayanagar, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560011. **Also at:** Property Bearing No.17/21 ,Thereafter 37/47, BBMP Municipal NO 47, BID NO 62-136-47, Lalbagh Siddapura, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560041. **Also at:** Plot No. 17/21, Formerly No.34/47, Siddapura Main Road, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011.	**Rs. 76,47,535/-** (Rupees Seventy Six Lakhs Forty Seven Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Five Only) as on 08.02.2021 (Include **Rs. 38,57,102/- as on 08.02.2021 For File No.82400469 + Rs. 37,90,433/- as on 08.02.2021 For File No.82400715** Including Future Interest + Statutory Expenditure + Legal Expenses + Incidental Charges.	**ITEM I: Rs.70,98,000/-** (Rupees Seventy Lakhs and Ninety Eight Thousand Only) **ITEM II : Rs.58,45,500/-** (Rupees Fifty Eight Lakhs Forty Five Thousand and Five Hundred Only) **Earnest Money Deposit** 25% of the tender Amount	**Sundaram Home Finance Limited,** Old No. 1947, New No. 19, 2nd Floor, 9th Block, 28th Main, South 'D' Main Road, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 069. **Place for Opening of Tender** **Sundaram Home Finance Limited,** Sundaram Tower, No. 46, Whites Road, Royapettah, Chennai-600014. **Date of opening the Tender** **27.02.2021 @ 17:30**

Description of Property: ITEM I (82400469): All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.17/21, thereafter 37/47 and latest Municipal No.136/34/47 and present BBMP Municipal No.47, situated at Siddapura, Jayanagar, Bangalore admeasuring 1183.8 Square Feet. **Bounded on the:** North By: Cross Road, South By: Portion of the same property belonging to Sri. Shivashankar, East By: 3 Feet common passage and then House property belonging to Sanjeevappa and Smt.Akkayyamma, West By : House property belonging to Gundappa and Sri.Appaiah. Measuring: East to West on the Northern Side: 29.09 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side: 30.10 Feet, North to South: 40 Feet.

ITEM II (82400715): All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.17/21, therafter 34/47 and latest Municipal No.136/34/47 and present BBMP Municipal No.47/1, having PID No.62-136-47/1, situated at Cross Road, Lalbagh Siddapura, Yajaynagar, Bangalore, as demarcated in the annexed sketch as "ABCDEFGHIA". **Measuring:** East to West: on the Northern Side 30.10 Feet, on the Southern Side 24+8/2 Feet, North to South: on the Eastern Side 26+21/2 Feet, on the Western Side47 Feet. Totally admeasuring about 1299.30 Square Feet. Along with the exclusive right of passage on the Eastern side measuring East to West 3 Feet and North to South 40 Feet. Bounded on the: North By: Purchaser's Property and 3 Feet Passage, South By: Property belonging to Nagaraja Rao, East By: House Property belonging to Sanjevappa and Smt.Akkayyamma, West By: House Property belonging to Gundappa and Sri.Appaiah. Which is more fully and particularly described in the Title Deed No.9660/2010-12.

Note: The intending purchasers are requested to verify the documents and participate in the auction on complete satisfaction of the title. Refund will not be given after sale confirmation in case if there arises any dispute regarding the title.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale of Property of Mr. Prakash M K Loan Account No. 82400469 & 82400715, please refer to www.sundaramhome.in/uploads/files/sale_notice/82400469_82400715.pdf

Date: 08.02.2021 — **for SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE LTD., AUTHORISED OFFICER**

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ANJANA JOSHI RAO,** R/at Flat No. T4, 3rd Floor, 'Elan Homes', No. 56/2, 26th Cross, Garden Layout, HSR Layout Sector-2, Bengaluru-560102, Karnataka, have changed my name from **ANJANA JOSHI** to **ANJANA JOSHI RAO,** vide affidavit dated 06.02.2021, sworn before Advocate & Notary K.V. Jagannath Reddy, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **VENKATA LAKSHMI R.,** Aged about 24 years, D/o. Sri Raju, Residing at K.K. Nidgallu, Nidgallu, Ramanagar, Karnataka - 562 117, hereby declare that both the names that is **VENKATA LAKSHMI R.** and **KAVYA** belongs to my self only. Vide affidavit dated 06-02-2021 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.C. Shashikala, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) RASHIDA KHANUM, W/o. Mohammed Iqbal Pasha, residing at No. 9/8, 8th Cross, Devaraj Urs Nagar, Government Electric Factory, Bangalore-560026, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) RASHIDA KHANUM** to **(NEW NAME) RASHEEDA KHANAM** vide affidavit Dated 03/02/2021 sworn before Notary Prakash.C., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NIKITA JAIN .S,** D/o Shailendra Kumar, aged about 24 years, residing at No. 317, Old No. (51), 66th Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560 010, have changed my name to **NIKITA JAIN,** vide Affidavit dated 05.02.2021, duly sworn to on oath before Notary Public Smt. Sumangala Hegde, Bangalore.

NAME CONFIRMATION

I, **PRAGNESH, S/o. Devendra Kumar Patel,** R/at. Flat No.103, 2nd `Floor, Site No.51, 10th A Cross, 5th Main Road, Pragathi Nagar Bengaluru-68, my Father name as mentined in SSLC Marks Sheet **DEVENDRA PATEL** in Aadhar Card mentioned name as **DEVENDRA KUMAR PATEL** both the names belongs to the same person i.e., my father only. vide affidavit dated: 5/2/2021 Sworn before Notary K.C. Gowtham

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ARJUN B.,** S/o. Balraj, Resident of # 20, 1st Cross, 1st Main, Jakkasandra Janatha Colony, Koramangala Post, Bangalore - 560 034, have changed my name from **PARTHIVAN B.** to **ARJUN B.** vide affidavit dated 12.11.2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Jyothi.V, D/o. Venkatesh.P,** R/at. Doddamalur Village & Post, Channa patna Taluk, Ramanagara District, Karnataka-571501. have changed my name from **JYOTHI SHIVAKUMAR** to **JYOTHI.V,** & here after continue in all my records, documents as **JYOTHI.V** only, vide affidavit dated: 29.1.2021 Sworn before Notary K.C. Chowde gowda, Bengaluru-09

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) IQBAL PASHA, S/o. Abdul Lateef, residing at No. 9/8, 8th Cross, Devaraj Urs Nagar, Government Electric Factory, Bangalore-560026, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) IQBAL PASHA** to **(NEW NAME) MOHAMMED IQBAL PASHA** vide affidavit Dated 03/02/2021 sworn before Notary Prakash.C., Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **SHANTHA MARY,** aged about 43 years, W/o. Sri. Stephen S.V., residing at Door No. 229, T.C. Palya, K.R. Pura Post, Bengaluru - 560 036, hereby declare that my son's correct name is **ALVIN DOMNIC S.** and correct date of birth is **24.09.2004.** I state that by oversight the date of birth of my son is wrongly mentioned in the Baptism Certificate as on **24.04.2004** instead of **24.09.2004** and also name of my son is wrongly mentioned as **ALLWYN DOMINIC** instead of **ALVIN DOMNIC S.** vide affidavit dated 06.02.2021 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.V. Bachi Reddy, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Sanjay Kumar D,** resident of No 279, Mysore Road,Near Masjid Bhangi Colony, Cham rajpet,Bangalore-560018, have changed my name to **Chandiya Kumar D** vide Affidavit dated 06.02.2021 before Notary N. Sandhya, Bangalore.

QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday night lodged a complaint with State Election Commissioner Nimmagadda Ramesh Kumar against police officials and revenue officials in Macherla and Punganur Assembly segments

Security has been tightened around the AIADMK party office in Chennai on Sunday. VK Sasikala is scheduled to return to the city on Monday | ASHWIN PRASATH

Several assets of Sasikala's kin attached

'Chinnamma' to receive a rousing welcome as she returns to Tamil Nadu today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vellore/Chennai/Bengaluru

A DAY before Sasikala is scheduled to arrive in Chennai, the Chennai Collectorate on Sunday attached properties worth several crores of her close relatives VN Sudhakaran and J Ilavarasi.

According to a press statement, about 2,324 sq feet land of Lex Property Development (P) Ltd at Wallace Garden in Thousand lights, was attached by the Collector. Both Sudhakaran and Ilavarasi are shareholders of the company. Buildings on the office land owned by the duo were also attached.

"The properties were confiscated as per a Supreme Court judgment passed on February 14, 2017. The titles of the properties are transferred to the State government. Any revenue earned from the properties also now belongs to the State government," the Collector said in the statement.

Meanwhile, security is being beefed up in Vellore district ahead of VK Sasikala's return to Chennai via the district on Monday, and ahead of Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami's election campaign on Tuesday. As many as 1,200 police personnel will be deployed - 1,000 for the Chief Minister and 200 for Sasikala - police sources said.

Minister for Commercial taxes and Registration KC Veeramani on Sunday inspected Anna Salai, one of the locations where Palaniswami will conduct his election campaign in Vellore on Tuesday. A grand reception for Sasikala is being planned at Kuthampakkam in Vellore district, and at Hosur, among other places, sources said.

Kannada activists tear up banners

Tamil flexes and banners that were put up to welcome Sasikala, near a resort at Nandi Hills where she is staying, were torn up by activists of Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV), a pro-Kannada organisation, on Sunday night. Her supporters had erected the flexes and banners near the resort. Meanwhile, Sasikala's supporters are turning up in large numbers near the resort.

187 students, 78 staffers in 2 schools test Covid +ve

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Malappuram

IN a worrying development, 187 students and 78 staffers of Maranchery Government Higher Secondary School and Vannery Higher Secondary School in Perumbadappu panchayat in Malappuram tested positive for Covid-19 on Sunday.

According to the district health department, the tests were conducted among the students and teachers of these schools after a Class X student at Maranchery school tested positive for the disease on February 1.

"After the student tested positive for the disease, three teachers at the school showed symptoms of the disease. Then, the health department collected samples from 582 students and 50 staff including teachers at the school last Friday. Of them, 148 students and 50 staff members tested positive," the department said in a press release.

After this, the department also collected the samples of students and staff members of nearby Vannery Higher Secondary School. "Of the samples collected from 49 students at Vannery school, 39 tested positive and 39 employees were also found to be infected," it added.

District Medical Officer K Sakeena said the health department has taken measures to stop the virus spread in the two schools and surrounding areas. "Covid tests of the people who have come in contact with the infected persons in the schools will be conducted soon," Sakeena said.

The authorities of both schools said they had held classes following the Covid protocol. "Only a limited number of students were accommodated inside each classroom. After a student tested positive for the disease, the health department took immediate measures to test the other students," said an official. Health officials said the development should be taken as a warning by people in the state. "It is the responsibility of the people to protect themselves from the virus through appropriate behaviour," said an official.

Healthy as a horse, will continue as CM for next 10 years, says KCR

VV BALAKRISHNA @ Hyderabad

ENDING months of speculation, TRS president and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao on Sunday made it very clear that there would be no change of guard in the State, and that he would continue to be the Chief Minister for 10 more years to come.

"I am very healthy. I will continue as the Chief Minister for the next one decade," he said, dismissing reports that he would soon be passing on the baton to his son and TRS working president KT Rama Rao.

Speaking at the TRS State executive committee meeting at Telangana Bhavan, Rao warned the party leaders of serious action, including suspension from the party, if they made statements about KT Rama Rao becoming the Chief Minister.

He said he did not understand why party leaders were indulging in inane speculation, and wondered whether they wanted him to resign as the Chief Minister.

Referring to the statements made by a few Ministers that KTR was capable of becoming the next Chief Minister, Rao recalled the day that he had made his stand clear in the Assembly floor long ago, on the succession issue, stating that he would continue as the Chief Minister. "Even after making this point very clear, I do not understand why you are talking about change of leadership," Rao was quoted as having said. TRS MPs, Legislators and all the top leaders of the State committee, including KTR, were present in the meeting.

> **I am very healthy. I will continue as the Chief Minister for the next one decade. I don't understand why party leaders are indulging in inane speculation**
>
> K Chandrashekar Rao, TS CM

In September, 2019, Rao had declared in the Assembly that he was healthy and would continue as the Chief Minister for two more terms. He averred that the TRS would stay in power for three more terms.

The TRS supremo, on Sunday, also directed the party leaders not to make controversial statements or land in controversies, in the wake of MLAs like Ch Dharma Reddy igniting trouble by making comments on raising funds for Ram Mandir, and on reservations.

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao speaks at a TRS party executive committee meeting in Hyderabad on Sunday | EXPRESS

JUMBO REST

Ahead of the 48-day annual rejuvenation camp for temple elephants, the jumbos reached Thekkampatti elephant camp, in Coimbatore on Sunday | U RAKESH KUMAR

'Agitation to continue till community gets ST tag'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"WE are asking for uniform consideration of the ST tag," said HM Revanna, a senior Congress leader from the community. He added that in their estimate, over five lakh people had gathered for the convention on Sunday.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj minister KS Eshwarappa, Excise minister MTB Nagaraj, Minister for Horticulture R Shankar and MLC H Vishwanath were the prominent faces from the BJP, while JDS' Bandeppa Kashempur and Congress' Revanna led the convention.

Vishwanath, taking a dig at Siddaramaiah but without naming him, said, "It is painful to see that the person that this community sacrificed its body, soul and wealth to make a chief minister has not turned up at the event." Kashempur told the gathering that the agitation will continue till the community gets the ST tag. Eshwarappa, who has been at the forefront of the agitation in the absence of Siddaramaiah, submitted a memorandum to Revenue Minister R Ashoka who was at the convention as a representative of the state government.

People of K'taka, TN must know truth: Writer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

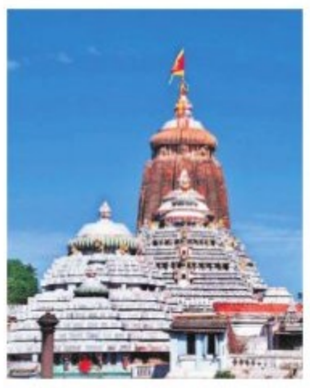
SIVASUBRAMANIYAM, who was the first journalist to meet Veerappan and release his picture to outside world, told *TNIE*, "People of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have every right to know the truth in this issue. Veerappan received ₹15.22 in cash from Karnataka government to release Rajkumar. Karnataka government gave ₹10 crore in two instalments to Veerappan through Nakkheeran Gopal. The final instalment of ₹5.22 crore was handed over to Veerappan on November 13, 2000."

He added, "After receiving the money, Veerappan released Rajkumar and handed him over to DVK president Kolathur Mani, and Tamizhar Desiya Munnani president P Nedumaran. A few days before the release, on November 10, 2000, Veerappan spoke with former Karnataka Chief Minister S M Krishna, through what we believe was a satellite phone."

According to him, Tamil Nadu government spent around ₹10 lakh on the team. "At first, Veerappan demanded ₹1,000 crore, including ₹900 crore worth in gold and ₹100 crore in cash. After several rounds negotiations, he settled for ₹10 crore," he added. A doctor from Karnataka, Banu, treated Veerappan for injuries," he added.

Nakkheeran editor Gopal denied the involvement of money and said Rajkumar was released through negotiations. "Sivasubramaniyam is not part of our magazine now. The book is a figment of his imagination," Gopal added.

But Kolathur Mani told *TNIE*, "We came to know that Veerappan received ₹10 crore. We are not aware of the ₹5.22 crore final settlement. We got involved in the issue after Veerappan refused to release Rajkumar even after he received the money. We were not involved directly or indirectly in the money transfer." He added, "It is true that Dr Banu treated Veerappan. It was not a satellite phone given to Veerappan. An antenna to boost the signal strength of the mobile phone was taken to Veerappan's hideout from Bangalore. We do not know whether Veerappan spoke to former Karnataka Chief Minister S M Krishna. He might have done that, but did not speak with him in our presence."



Puri Temple: Odisha wants bylaws withdrawn

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bhubaneswar

THE Sri Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) on Sunday wrote to the National Monuments Authority (NMA) requesting it to withdraw the notification of draft heritage bylaws for Sri Jagannath temple in the interest of the Holy Trinity, servitors and devotees.

Commissioner of Endowments CR Mohapatra has also written to the NMA to withdraw the name of Sri Brahmeswar temple in Bhubaneswar from the bylaws as the shrine is likely to be included in the Integrated Ekamra Development Plan.

The draft bylaws have proposed stringent restrictions on construction activities around Srimandir and other temples.

Stating that Lord Jagannath is the 'Aradhya Devata' of Odias and millions of Hindus across India and the world, Chief Administrator of SJTA Dr Krishan Kumar wrote that a large number of sahis (habitations), which are more than a millennium old, exist around the temple. These sahis are mostly habitations of sevayat families who have been rendering service to the Lords since time immemorial. "As they are likely to be adversely affected by the move, they must be consulted before any process to restrict their rights is undertaken by the NMA," the Chief Administrator wrote.

'Only time can solve Sri Lanka issue'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Madurai

CLAIMING that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's recent visits to Sri Lanka had nothing to do with the retrieval of Katchatheevu, Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, **VK Singh**, said that only time could solve the maritime border dispute.

Addressing the media persons here at the Circuit House on Sunday, Singh said that both the nations are in a maritime boundary agreement. "Neither Sri Lanka is going to claim it, nor is India going to take it forcibly. We are not disturbing the agreement at the moment. Let the time solve the problem. The type of government that Sri Lanka has right now may not seem friendly, but it is friendly as far as our benefits are concerned," he said.

In reply to why the defence budget failed to include Southern borders, he said that there was no enmity with Sri Lanka. "It is a friendly nation that allows Indian investments. We have this constant problem of fishermen. It was decided between both the countries that the agricultural and fisheries ministers would meet once in every six months to resolve the issues," he said, adding that there were ample measures taken for the welfare of fishermen.

Speaking on the BJP's stand on Tamil Nadu politics, he said, "Our base in Tamil Nadu was not as strong as it should have been. We have been improving in the last five years . We will see how it translates on ground."

AP court strikes down order against minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Vijayawada

THE Andhra Pradesh High Court on Sunday struck down the orders of State Election Commissioner (SEC) Nimmagadda Ramesh Kumar to the Director General of Police (DGP) Gautam Sawang to confine panchayat raj minister Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy to his residence till the completion of panchayat elections on February 21. The HC, however, refused to interfere in the orders of the SEC barring Peddireddy from speaking with the media till February 21.

Ramachandra Reddy filed a house motion petition which came for hearing before Justice DVSS Somayajulu on Sunday.

Appearing on behalf of Ramachandra Reddy, senior counsel CV Mohan Reddy informed the court that the orders of the SEC confining the minister to his residence is against the Constitution and curtails the freedom of an individual. Mohan said it was the policy of the government to encourage unanimous elections and the same was supported by the minister. He sought to know as to what wrong did the SEC find in the minister supporting unanimous polls.

EXPERT COLUMN

COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL

TO compensate for the loss of forests to make way for development works, trees are grown in non-forest areas. Such plantations are termed as compensatory afforestation (CA) and user agency benefitting from the diversion of forest lands pays for the purchase of non forest land, cost of growing plantations and also the net present value (NPV) of the forests diverted.

The amount collected from the user agency is credited to CAMPA fund, which was earlier being managed by the Central Government, but is now being managed by respective states.

NPV collected is utilised for infrastructure, protecting forests and improving its growing stock. Like any other state, Karnataka too has taken CA, management of invasive species and large number of civil works such as maintenance of roads for patrolling, construction and rejuvenation of water holes, maintenance of staff quarters and forest rest houses etc. Taking up any civil work inside forests and protected areas should be as per a well-thought-out plan. There are sufficient water holes in the forests and the task of the department should be to rejuvenate them periodically by desilting and clearing the inlet drains. There is hardly any need to go for fresh construction.

CA grown on non-forest lands in lieu of forests diverted have generally not registered good success.

The CA lands are located closer to habitations and far from other forest areas, posing a challenge for management. Further, we grow six to eight species including some exotics as against hundreds of species lost in diversion of forests. Also, CA land is never notified as Reserved Forest, making it difficult to apply sections of forest laws while dealing with offences. Standalone CAs in the vicinity of villages completely fail and even the lands are encroached.

B K SINGH
Retired Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Karnataka

A number of rail, road, pump storage and transmission line projects are in the pipeline in high-quality evergreen forest areas of Western Ghats, especially in Shivamogga and Uttara Kannada districts. These forests provide numerous ecological services and are mothers of several rivers and tributaries.

Studies suggest that extensive deforestation often reduces cloud formation and rainfall. Fragmented forests leads to canopy roughness and temperature driven convections causing localised increase of rainfalls and floods. Since deforestation is linked to simultaneous droughts and floods, NPV being collected from user agencies is insufficient for mitigation and is highly underestimated.

Only few days ago, a Supreme Court panel suggested charging Rs 74 lakh for losing the ecological services from a single tree with hundred years of life left and located along a road. It is high time that a scientific method be evolved to find appropriate NPV.

Under CAMPA, we should consider acquiring private wooded areas in Western Ghats. There are small patches in all districts and quite a big chunk in Belgavi, in the catchment of river Mahadayi. Further, the process of notification of reserve forests for all wooded areas under the control of Revenue Department, which has been pending with the Government for many years, should be completed.

EDITORIAL

"The most precious gift that we can offer anyone is our attention" — Thich Nhat Hanh

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.
— Ramnath Goenka

CONG BID TO SHAKE OFF SLOTH GIVES AGHADI A HEADACHE

Even a worm will turn, wrote the Bard. Something similar appears to be happening in Maharashtra with the Congress shaking up its docile leadership team and appointing the aggressive Nana Patole as the state unit chief. Patole resigned as Assembly Speaker before taking up the party position. Shuffles within any party ought to be its internal matter, but Congress's allies in the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi, the Shiv Sena and the NCP, were wary, perhaps because Patole would not let them continue treating his party as a doormat. For the record though, the allies complained they were not taken into confidence over the Speaker's resignation, but the Congress rebutted they were informally sounded out at appropriate levels. Because it is an elected post, the process of mutual consultation to identify a new consensus candidate within the Aghadi needs to be initiated all over again.

While both the Sena and the NCP chose to frame the issue as picking a new Speaker, the larger question is the Congress demand for equal say in the Aghadi government. Over a year after the three-party alliance was formed, the grand old party has decided it will no longer needlessly prop up the regional parties. The logic of playing along just to keep the BJP out of the reckoning without getting proportional power appears to have been thrown out of the window. The new thinking was articulated a few weeks ago when it started demanding the post of deputy chief minister. At present, NCP's Ajit Pawar is the lone deputy CM and wields a lot of clout. Patole can be expected to try to bully the allies to give his party a powerful seat at the high table. That he enjoys Rahul Gandhi's confidence would give him that much more leverage when he enters into tough negotiations within the Aghadi.

Managing the affairs of a faction-ridden unit that has multiple former chief ministers is not easy even in the best of times. Patole's record of party hopping could make him an easy target of detractors. However, one thing is sure, the Congress will not be as staid as it has been in the Aghadi. How Uddhav Thackeray and Sharad Pawar create the space to keep the Congress in good humour remains to be seen.

ON SELLING GOVT BONDS TO THE PUBLIC

With little room to cut key interest rates in his monetary policy delivered on Friday, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das decided to surprise markets with a new scheme: selling government bonds directly to the public.

The move is supposed to address multiple objectives. On the one hand, the Centre needs to raise ₹12 lakh crore in debt this year and wants to cast its net further than the small circle of banks and funds that traditionally buy its bond issuance. On the other, in an era where interest rates on bank deposits are falling and stock markets are behaving like the proverbial yo-yo, a safe house is required for people to keep their savings. The RBI's Retail Direct is supposed to be the stone that kills both birds. The hope is that as a bond issued by the sovereign is the safest option, customers will be attracted to it. However, the problem with it is that government bond issuances typically offer low to moderate returns. While the 10-year bonds offer about 6.126% return, shorter duration ones offer even lower rates. The competition for public deposits in safe houses will thus be between the government and the banks it runs, which the public has favoured till now for keeping their savings safe. Either one or the other will be beggared in the process, regardless of Das's assertion that there are enough deposits in the market for all to partake. The only game changer that can occur in this is if the rules of deposit safety change. In case several state-run banks are sold off or start reporting losses or mounting bad debts, the resultant fear psychosis among the public may lead to a shift in deposits towards the ultra-safe gilt market.

The RBI's bid to give the Centre access to what would be easy money could also renew the state's old habit of borrowing beyond its means. As it is, the pile of public debt has risen to nearly 85% of GDP. If the debt tap is free-flowing, the tendency to borrow more today and let the next government bother about the fallout will only be strengthened. Das's rabbit, instead of bringing home carrots, may well take the state into a dark rabbit hole from where India may be at risk of coming out as another Greece.

With the situation in J&K much better after the Article 370 move, there are murmurs afoot again about reducing the Army's footprint, if not wholesale withdrawal

J&K: CAN STATE'S INTERNAL SECURITY DO WITHOUT ARMY?

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)
Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps. Now Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir

AMIT BANDRE

The internal security scenario of India has been a serious challenge at various times in its history since 1947. The Army's primary responsibility is the defence of India from external aggression and its secondary responsibility is internal security. It has been deployed in the Northeast in various stages of anti-secessionist campaigns. In J&K, it has been at the LoC ever since 1949, but moved into a more classic internal security situation involving counter insurgency/counter terrorism (CI/CT) since 1989. In that year, the Army was requisitioned when an indeterminate number of foreign and local terrorists backed by Pakistan and supported by the separatists challenged the writ of the police forces, which were not in a position to counter them. At the height of the 31-year proxy conflict, there may have been approximately 5,000-7,000 terrorists in J&K. In 2001, the Indian security forces neutralised 2,100 terrorists, the highest in all 30 years. Today, there are an estimated 215 terrorists in Kashmir and none in the Jammu division, where terrorism has become transitory. Yet, the Army remains deployed in a CI/CT role. The rationale for this needs explanation. Even in December 2013, the editor of a prominent national daily wrote that the Army should get back to the LoC and give a part of the then peace dividend to the people of J&K. For starters, if that advice was taken, the fate of Kashmir in the period 2016-21 would have been quite different to what ultimately emerged.

At various times, there have been demands by different segments to limit the Army's role in J&K or withdraw it altogether. Many among the military veteran community did not want the Army to be diverted from its main conventional role. With the situation in J&K much better after the decisions relating to Article 370 taken on 5 August 2019, there are murmurs afoot once again about reducing the Army's footprint, if not wholesale withdrawal from the CI/CT grid. In light of the conventional collusive threats emanating from China and Pakistan after the Ladakh standoff, the demand for more troops from the internal security grid to the nation's borders may look prudent. But is J&K ready to see reduced deployment of the Army? That needs serious analysis.

Two examples from the past may be helpful in understanding this. In June 1999, the Army's 8th Mountain Division deployed in the thick of operations in North Kashmir was suddenly moved to Kargil, leaving a void in the critical area of Handwara-Sopore for almost three months, until the Kilo Force of the Rashtriya Rifles was raised. For the next three years, we had to fight hard to regain domination there. Secondly, in 2012, following a good stable year in South Kashmir, we took a decision to thin troops from there, deploy them to reinforce North Kashmir's counter infiltration grid and fill gaps created by the move of an independent brigade to Ladakh. It led to large voids in South Kashmir, which Burhan Wani's movement found most suitable to exploit. From the 'karewas' adjoining the Pir Panjal to the Bring Valley, terrorism re-emerged; it has taken us five years to regain balance. If you have lived in insurgencies and terror-infested zones, you will know that the potential of such zones to return to a state of turbulence is contingent upon the over ground worker networks that flourish there, not on the strength of terrorists or the quantum of violence registered. These networks have the ability to quickly transform from an active to inactive state and vice-versa. Commonly, the temptation is to move troops from areas considered peaceful with an absence of violence. Experience reveals an adage that I never forget: 'The absence of violence is not normalcy'. It is something practitioners will always recommend and policymakers must accept.

> What China wants from Pakistan is not war on the western front but posturing and a strong revival of turbulence in J&K that threatens India sufficiently and provides the half front of the proverbial two-and-a-half front war

Many times, even experienced practitioners forget the intrinsic link between stages of conflict and potential withdrawal or drawdown by a lead force. In mid-1999, during the 'conflict progression' stage, a withdrawal from just a part of Kashmir forced by the circumstances of Kargil was suicidal; yet it could not be helped. In 2021, we may consider we are still at a late stage of conflict stabilisation in J&K. Unless we have progressed beyond the conflict resolution stage, a dilution of resources, especially something as significant as the lead force, will only lead to an eventual bounce-back by adversaries. What the Chinese want from Pakistan is not war on the western front but posturing and a strong revival of turbulence in J&K that threatens India sufficiently and seriously provides the half front of the proverbial two-and-a-half front war. Besides, if the threat perception indicates early war-like conditions, the Indian Army itself will want its rear areas secure. Under those circumstances, is it even prudent to dilute what provides fail-safe rear-area security, the Rashtriya Rifles (RR)? Conflict termination does not appear on the horizon yet. Pakistan's intent remains unchanged; the recruitment and holding camps as also launch pads have not been wound up. Different routes for infiltration and diverse ways of spreading financial networks are being sought—for instance, the Samba route to get to the Valley, with a surfeit of weapons and drugs to proliferate finances. While separatist leaders may be ineffective and new politics is being attempted, the one thing that has seen little change is the degree of radicalisation.

The Army's biggest advantage is its ability to fight terrorists and yet spread goodwill. Its regimentation and training help in a full-spectrum understanding of proxy conflict and that caters to an appreciation of the fact that the population of J&K remains the centre of gravity of the conflict. It also understands the concept of influence operations and the need to take its military civic action program—Operation Sadbhavana—to the next higher level.

What will help most with the situation is that the decision-makers respect the view of the practitioners. The decisions of 5 August 2019 were a step towards final victory but were not the final step. It's yet a developing security situation that must not swing to the adversary's favour at any cost. The Army must remain on J&K's internal security grid; it will ensure we do not yield an inch.

(atahasnain@gmail.com)

VACCINE NATIONALISM EXACERBATES GLOBAL FAULTLINES

PINAK RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY
Former Ambassador, Ex-Secretary in MEA & currently a Visiting Fellow at ORF, Delhi

The competitive nature of international politics and the rise of 'me first' nationalism have again been starkly highlighted by developed nations as they scramble to corner Covid vaccines for their citizens in order to beat the global rampage of the pandemic. Wealthy nations have turned towards subsiding their own pharmaceutical companies and locking in vaccine supplies for their population.

Developed countries, otherwise accustomed to using foreign aid to arm-twist governments in developing countries, are now busy managing their domestic pandemic situation. Tightening border controls and restricting travel has become the new normal. Developing countries have been forgotten.

The global response to the pandemic and its economic impact has been incoherent, unlike the G20 response in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis. There appears to be a breakdown in the global effort to tackle the pandemic, hitherto never witnessed before when viruses like SARS-2 and Ebola hit. Major powers then had collaborated effectively to meet the challenge and prevented a global pandemic. In fact, in 2014, the US and China had collaborated closely to establish treatment centres and supply medication that effectively met the Ebola challenge.

Lack of an orderly response to Covid has rendered global institutions like the WHO crippled, in striking contrast to the success achieved by it earlier. This tragic situation has been characterised as a 'moral failure' by the director general of WHO. The latter cannot be absolved of culpability, with the way he kowtowed to China and mishandled the initial response to the pandemic.

By monopolising vaccine supplies, developed countries are laying the foundation of a global humanitarian crisis. If such countries are relegated to the last in line for vaccine supply, economic recovery will be hit badly. Given the nature of global trade and interdependence of supply chains, nations will have to swim together or suffer sustained economic downturn. According to the OECD, around $11 trillion of the $18 trillion traded in 2019 was in intermediate goods that were part of global supply chains. Non-availability of vaccines to developing countries will add another layer of inequity to an economically stratified global community. Former US President Trump did nothing to address these issues and the world is now waiting for President Biden to ensure American policy is reversed. It is estimated that developing countries, if denied funds and vaccines, will take three-four years to vaccinate their population.

Another unfortunate trend is the unseemly fight between pharmaceutical companies and the EU and UK over access to vaccine supplies. AstraZeneca has indicated that it will not be able to supply vaccines promised earlier to the EU. The Union has promptly threatened to impose restrictions on vaccine exports, obliquely alleging that the pharma companies want to divert vaccines to more lucrative markets like the UK from manufacturing units in the EU. The UK has put in controls on export of various pharma products to lock in supplies for its own population. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, at the World Economic Forum, accused wealthy countries of hoarding vaccines far more than their requirement.

The EU has locked in supplies for more than twice its population. It is smarting at criticism that it is trailing other wealthy countries, like the US, UK, Israel and others in its vaccination coverage of its population. Any selective application of export controls will run afoul of WTO rules on universality of restrictions, though the regulations recognise exemption grounds of national security and health emergencies. Has the world changed so fundamentally as a result of four years of Trumpism? The EU's Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) with China, announced on the eve of President Biden's assumption of office, was another clear signal of transatlantic discord and a blowback for Trumpism.

> By monopolising vaccine supplies, developed countries are laying the foundation of a global humanitarian crisis. If developing nations are relegated to the last in line for vaccine supply, recovery will be hit badly. ... Non-availability of vaccines will add another layer of inequity to an economically stratified global community

Developing countries dependent on foreign exchange remittances will be hit hard as the flows have fallen to 20% of $554 billion in 2019. The pandemic will deliver a double whammy to the nations that depend on tourism and commodity exports. The COVAX initiative launched by the WHO to help developing countries is hugely underfunded and may not vaccinate more than 20% of the population of the developing nations unless funds are provided urgently and orders placed for vaccines. The EU's export controls will also hit vaccine supplies to many developing countries. While EU nations are prone to grandstanding on human rights issues, their recourse to vaccine nationalism exposes their double standards.

India has carefully charted a course that avoids vaccine nationalism. The depth in the pharma sector has been the foundation on which she has crafted her vaccine diplomacy. Operation Vaccine Maitri has now reached out to countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America, with vaccine supplies reaching diverse nations. India's neighbours, barring Pakistan, and other countries in the extended neighbourhood, have received their first consignments as grants. This is despite the huge domestic demand for the vaccination campaign that India kicked off in January.

Having supplied medication and medical kits earlier to combat the pandemic, the external affairs minister put it aptly by saying: "We are more nationalistic, but at the same time we don't see a tension between being nationalistic and being international." He was articulating a policy that has inspired India's vision of internationalism that began a few years after Independence, with it reaching out as a development partner to newly independent countries in Asia and Africa emerging from years of exploitative colonial rule.

India recognises that the global system is deeply interconnected. The 'me first' approach is short-sighted and will not help the fight against the pandemic. Unlike China, which has demanded quid pro quos, India has scrupulously avoided that approach. While Beijing mouths cliches like there is "no place for malign competition", it has unleashed its media to question the efficacy of Indian vaccines and accuse us of interfering and preventing Chinese vaccines from being used in South Asia. Beijing's doublespeak lies thoroughly exposed but that does not worry the authoritarian regime. Its ruthless intention of exploiting a global pandemic is quite apparent. This raises serious doubts about China's intentions, reliability and leadership role in an interdependent world.

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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Overindulgence not right

Supreme Court Justice M R Shah praising the PM at the Gujarat High Court's diamond jubilee celebrations has taken back-slapping to new heights. While it isn't a sin, overindulgence by the judiciary is bad as it already suffers from a trust deficit.
Dr George Jacob, Kochi

Praises improper

The effusive praises were not mutual. The PM praised the judiciary, which was appropriate in the context. The judge praised the individual, which was improper.
Hemanth Bhide, Mangaluru

Wise move by protesters

With dramatic nimbleness, Jat leader Rakesh Tikait has taken over the leading role in the farmers' agitation since the violence on Republic Day. It is perhaps a wise move that can stifle the criticism that the agitation is Sikh-centric.
A Raveendranath, Aranmula

Arm-twisting the Centre

The *kisan* agitation seems to have hit a roadblock. The tall talk of extending protests till October 2 is to arm-twist the Centre into submission over the irrational demands about the farm laws.
K V Raghuram, Wayanad

HC directives welcome

The Kerala High Court directive to remove all unauthorised arches, banners, frames and hoardings is quite welcome. Such advertisements endanger road safety and cause inconvenience to pedestrians.
S Lakshmi, email

Will they be implemented?

The Kerala HC's directive is a good one. Most footpaths are encroached upon by wayside vendors with semi-permanent structures, forcing pedestrians to use the main road instead. We just have to wait and see how the directives are implemented.
Dr M Haneef, Kottayam

Prelude to Assembly polls

The protest by opposition parties in Kerala over the appointment of the wife of a prominent CPM leader as assistant professor in a Kochi university is justified. But this hue and cry is just a prelude to the coming Assembly elections.
Biju C Mathew, Thiruvananthapuram

Save the Vizag Steel Plant

The letter by the CM of Andhra Pradesh to the Centre to reconsider its proposal to divest its stakes in the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and explore other options instead is a step in the right direction.
C Ghanshyam, Visakhapatnam

Only receptive to plaudits

The hullabaloo over tweets by celebrities like Rihanna and Greta Thunberg is proof that Indians are receptive only to plaudits. Countering comments by people that mean little to India with salvos by government-backed courtiers doesn't make sense.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Joe Root's double ton

England skipper Joe Root is the only batsman so far to notch up a double ton in his 100th cricket Test match. He handled all our bowlers at the Chepauk stadium in Chennai with authority.
P P Sahadevan, Nileshwar

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Omar Abdullah @OmarAbdullah

Shopian DDC election, even Srinagar for that matter, aren't really a surprise. These people have been buying & selling elected representatives since 1984. Practice makes perfect!

Yashwant Sinha @YashwantSinha

Justice MR Shah has opened my eyes. I strongly recommend that like Justice Gogoi he should also enrich Rajya Sabha after his retirement

Kaushik Basu @kaushikcbasu

What can be more anti-national than being anti-farmer, especially in an emerging economy where agriculture is the backbone?

Hydro project washed away in U'khand floods

Project on Rishiganga river swept away but no danger in downstream areas, says NCMC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Dehradun

THE National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) on Sunday convey that even though a 13.2 MW small hydro project on the Rishiganga river was swept away in the glacier burst in Uttarakhand, there is no danger of floods in the downstream areas as the water level has been contained.

The committee headed by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, at an emergency meeting held on Sunday confirmed this.

The NCMC was also informed that people trapped in a hydropower project tunnel were rescued by the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), while efforts are on to rescue those trapped in another tunnel. The operation is being coordinated by the Army and the ITBP, an official spokesperson said.

All-out efforts are being made to ensure that all missing people are traced and accounted for. The glacier burst led to a rise in water levels in the river Rishiganga, which washed away the Rishiganga small hydro project of 13.2 MW. The flash flood also affected the downstream hydro project of NTPC at Tapovan on the river Dhauli Ganga, which is a tributary of the river Alaknanda, the spokesperson said.

However, there is no danger of downstream flooding, and the rise in water level has been contained, as per the information given by the Central Water Commission (CWC), the spokesperson said.

There is also no threat to the neighbouring villages.

Also, the agencies of the central and the state governments were asked to keep a strict vigil on the situation, and a team from the DRDO, which monitors avalanches, is being flown in for surveillance and reconnaissance.

The Managing Director of the NTPC has been asked to reach the affected site immediately.

A part of the Nanda Devi glacier broke off at Joshimath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday, leading to a massive flood in the Dhauli Ganga river and causing large-scale devastation in the upper reaches of this ecologically fragile Himalayan region.

This is the clearest picture yet of how fast Himalayan glaciers are melting over this time interval, and why

Joshua Maurer, a PhD candidate at Columbia University in US

The teams will study the reasons behind the incident. Our teams will be looking into different aspects of glaciology

Kalachand Sain, Director, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology

Flash flood after a glacier broke off in Joshimath caused a massive flood in the Dhauliganga river in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand on Sunday; (Top) ITBP personnel carry out rescue operations | PTI

2019 study had warned of Himalayan glaciers melting

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Dehradun

A part of the Nanda Devi glacier broke off in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday, leading to massive floods, recalling a 2019 study that warned about the dangers of climate change and said Himalayan glaciers have been melting twice as fast since the start of this century.

The glacier collapse at Joshimath led to a massive flood in the Alaknanda river system and caused large-scale devastation in the upper reaches of the ecologically fragile Himalayas.

Two years earlier in June 2019, a study spanning 40 years of satellite observations across India, China, Nepal and Bhutan, indicated that climate change is eating the Himalayas glaciers. The study, published in the journal Science Advances in June 2019, shows that glaciers have been losing the equivalent of more than a vertical foot and half of ice each year since 2000 — double the amount of melting that took place from 1975 to 2000.

"This is the clearest picture yet of how fast Himalayan glaciers are melting over this time interval, and why," said Joshua Maurer, a PhD candidate at Columbia University in the US.

While not specifically calculated in the study, the glaciers may have lost as much as a quarter of their enormous mass over the last four decades, said Maurer, lead author of the study. The study synthesised data from across the region, stretching from early satellite observations to the present.

The data indicates that the melting is consistent in time and space, and that rising temperatures are to blame, the researchers said. Temperatures vary from place to place, but from 2000 to 2016 they have averaged one degree Celsius higher than those from 1975 to 2000, they said.

Researchers analysed repeat satellite images of some 650 glaciers spanning 2,000 kilometres from west to east.

With Agency inputs

Armed forces press in men & machine for rescue

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE glacial burst in Chamoli on Sunday has led to large scale devastation and loss of life. The armed forces — Army, Air Force and Navy — have moved in their specialised teams with equipment to carry out rescue operations.

The India Army has moved their personnel along with specialised equipment to Ringi village near Joshimath. They have pressed in four Army columns, two medical teams, one engineering task force to the village. Two more columns have been put on standby. Two Cheetah helicopters belonging to Army aviation are deployed for aerial recce. The engineering task force has travelled with two specialised multi-purpose vehicles which can move heavy load. The medical column has two ambulances and a control room has been set up at Joshimath.

Indian Air Force has moved 60 persons from the National Disaster Relief Force with five tonnes of load from Hindon to JollyGrant Airport in IAF C130. One more C130 and one AN 32 are ready at Hindon for additional NDRF teams. Three IAF Mi-17s have been positioned at JollyGrant to airlift NDRF teams to Joshimath. A field hospital has been set up.

The Navy has also moved in specialised teams for the rescue operations.

Navy diving teams, 16 personnel in New Delhi and 40 in Mumbai are ready for deployment.

Many labourers are said to be trapped in the Tapovan tunnel. CAPF personnel have been tasked to remove the debris and rescue the labourers.

The incident took place at around 10:45 am leading to rise of water levels, which washed away the Rishiganga hydro project. It also affected the downstream hydro project of NTPC at Tapovan on river Dhauliganga.

Response teams face hurdles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

IN many places, rescue teams are having difficulties in moving the debris. They are using ropes to reach the spots. A tunnel is also being dug. Response teams are also evacuating people from danger zones.

To prevent Alaknanda river from overflowing, the flow of Bhagirathi river has been stopped by closing the gates of GVK dam in Srinagar and Virbhadra dam in Rishikesh. Uttarakhand Police has issued an advisory stating that the danger level of various rivers will cross at Srinagar, Rishikesh and Haridwar. "At Rishikesh, water level may rise to 340.50 m and Haridwar the water level may reach 294 m," said advisory.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Am constantly monitoring the unfortunate situation in Uttarakhand. India stands with Uttarakhand and the nation prays for everyone's safety there. Have been constantly speaking to senior authorities and getting updates on NDRF deployment, rescue work and relief operations."

'Flag at Red Fort was India's Capitol Hill moment'

AN alternate viewpoint is important in a functioning democracy like ours and there should always be room for parliamentary debates on important matters, former Vice-President of India ***M Hamid Ansari*** *says in conversation with author and senior journalist* ***Kaveree Bamzai*** *as part of The New Indian Express' webcast series E-Expressions about his book By Many A Happy Accident: Recollections Of A Life*

Flying the flag at the top of Red Fort on Republic Day was akin to the violence that erupted on Capitol Hill in the USA, said former Vice President of India, M Hamid Ansari. "There have been subsequent debates as to how those people could reach that particular point in the Red Fort that is not easily accessible. Someone must have failed and it was almost like India's Capitol Hill moment," said Ansari.

Answering a question on the farmers' protest following the farm bills, Ansari says: "As a principle, I do not comment on the work of my successors. The public knows what happened and what didn't happen. What has happened after that and the expression of public opinion that has (been) emanated by thousands of people, there's surely something to it."

Speaking about his role as a public intellectual and how important multiple viewpoints are to the functioning of democracy, Ansari says: "An alternate viewpoint has always been important in a functioning democracy. It might not be that important in a non-democratic society, but ours is a democratic society and a proud one too. The option of transforming intellectual inputs into alternates is critical. This has always been my observation about the need for parliamentary debates. The legislative process is a very acute one. The proposed legislation is drafted with utmost legal and political care by experts, covering all possible angles. But when it comes to the house, (which is) a body of people with varied experiences, they can tear it to bits or even add (to it)."

Recollecting some moments

EXPRESS expressions FEAR NONE. FAVOUR NONE

right after he became Vice President and sharing insights about his relationship with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Ansari says: "Just after I was elected, I received calls from various chief ministers and political personalities. Among the early callers was the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi. At that time, Godhra was very fresh in everyone's minds and I asked him why he did it. His response was what I have recorded, 'People only look at this and not my good work'. He then told me about how he helped some poor girls of a particular community get education. I asked him why he doesn't publicise this side of him and he told me that it doesn't suit his political personality. But we shared a cordial and good relationship."

Answering a question about some problems he might have faced during his tenure, Ansari says: "I wouldn't call them hiccups. The leader of a ruling party or the opposition party looks at things from one manner. My point of view, as the chairman of the Rajya Sabha, is that of a referee at a hockey match. I'm not a player but I watch the match very closely. I have a whistle and a rulebook and when fouls are committed, I have to blow the whistle. We were just looking at things from different angles."

Mentioning his farewell and the speeches made by the Prime Minister on the occasion, Ansari says: "I was discomforted because it was not an occasion to talk about ideologies. He made two speeches that day. One which got publicised and the other at another farewell organised at the Parliament where the Prime Minister spoke very differently. I have spoken about it in my book, By Many a Happy Accident. There is even a photo in the book. There is a mis-perception that there was some anger and animosity."

Commenting on the Muslim community and especially the role and responsibility of women, Ansari says they have to do more to integrate better. "There are issues like the feeling of insecurity, which is the responsibility of the state but there are other aspects like lagging behind in education, especially women. While delivering a speech in Kozhikode, I presented a lot of data about how Muslim women are lagging behind than the rest of the Indian community. They are not sufficiently educated, they don't participate in public life and they don't leave their homes to participate in public. An atmosphere has to be created for this to happen. Gandhiji did it, the freedom movement did it, a year ago we saw it in Delhi. The demand for participation in civic life is a very healthy development," he said.

INTERVIEW

'Green strategic pact will better ties between India and Denmark'

PUSHKAR BANAKAR @ New Delhi

APPLAUDING India on the way it handled the pandemic, Danish Ambassador to India **Freddy Svane** said that the lockdown here was imposed on a timely basis after much due diligence. He also asserted that Green Strategic Partnership will serve as a platform for improvement for both India and Denmark.

India and Denmark have had strong ties over the years. How do you think relations have evolved?

India and Denmark are both democracies and have shared values with respect to environment, people and a host of other issues. The forward growth in ties was visible during the virtual bilateral summit between the two prime ministers last year.

How do you think Green Strategic Partnership will help in elevating the ties?

The Green Strategic Partnership, which was recently launched, will help both India and Denmark. While for Denmark, it will be a chance for us to showcase our expertise in the field of clean and green technology, for India it will be sort of a solution for its green problems. The Green Strategic Partnership will serve as a platform to improve of these. For instance, experts from Denmark relating to the fields of water, energy, urbanization and Intellectual Property Rights are already in India and are collaborating with the Indian government on measures needed to be taken to implement the Green Strategic Partnership.

Another important aspect that the Green Strategic Partnership will cover is employment. We have seen that the pandemic has adversely impacted the economy. The Green Strategic Partnership will help create jobs.

Speaking of Covid-19, you went on record to say that India has handled the pandemic well. Now, with India supplying vaccines to many countries, do you think New Delhi has a big role to play?

India indeed has been very good at handling the pandemic. The lockdown here was imposed on a timely basis while keeping in mind the continuity of essential supplies. Denmark too had a lockdown but to effectively manage the situation in a vast and diverse country like India is commendable.

Where do you see the bilateral ties, especially in the post-pandemic era?

Our relations will revolve around the Green Strategic Partnership.

For full interview visit www.theinewindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Afghanistan receives 5-lakh Covid vaccines

New Delhi: India on Sunday sent a consignment of 5 lakh Covid-19 vaccines to Afghanistan. Upon the shipment's arrival, Afghan health officials said that the doses would be stored in Kabul as the country is still awaiting WHO's approval for emergency use. With this consignment, India has sent vaccines to all neighbouring countries, except Pakistan. The EAM had said India had supplied Covid-19 vaccines to 15 countries.

More than 58L Covid warriors vaccinated

New Delhi: The number of healthcare and frontline workers vaccinated against coronavirus crossed the 58 lakh-mark on the twenty third day of the countrywide inoculation program, the Union health ministry said on Sunday. India is now the third topmost country with the highest doses of Covid vaccine administered after the US and the UK, it said. The ministry said 12 states reported vaccination activity on Sunday.

Fingers raised at tax exemption for temple donation, VHP says got relief from Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

WITH the drive to collect donation for the Ram temple gaining momentum, a few activists questioned that how the money donated to the Shree Ramjanmabhhomi Teertha Kshetra Trust was eligible for income deduction benefits.

One of them on Twitter said, "Just got to know that donations to Ram Mandir construction is tax exempt by 80 G...It is not a charity or a relief fund, neither does it help any section of the society except bigots?"

But it later turned out the CBDT had notified the benefits for the Trust last year under Section 80G of IT Act on the grounds that the Ram temple is of historical importance.

"Shree Ramjanmabhhomi Teertha Kshetra Trust had made a request before the CBDT for the 80G income tax deduction benefits, and it was granted as per the provisions of the law, which are availed by a number of similar Trusts, including charitable and relief institutions," said a senior VHP leader.

The RSS and the VHP functionaries are reaching out to people across the country to collect donations for the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. Volunteers are emphasising the 80G benefits under the IT Act in the drive.

1,000 AIR ROUTES

Union Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said his ministry has set a target of operationalising 100 unserved and underserved airports and starting at least 1,000 air routes under UDAN scheme

5 CUBS IN SINGLE DELIVERY BY A PENCH TIGRESS

Ahmedabad	29	15	Mumbai	32	22
Bhopal	27	10	Panaji	34	21
Jaipur	27	12	Patna	25	11
Amritsar	22	08	Lucknow	22	13
Chennai	30	20	Port Blair	30	23
Kolkata	27	14	Imphal	25	05
Srinagar	06	-1	Chandigarh	28	12

Farmers and supporters attend a 'Mahapanchayat', organised by Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) and khap panchayat, in Charkhi Dadri, Haryana on Sunday | PTI

Mahapanchayat turns crowdpuller

Tikait underlines role played by khap panchayats in strengthening the protest movement

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE Kisan Mahapanchayat held at Charkhi Dadri district in Haryana on Sunday attracted huge crowd, revealing the support the farmers' movement has attracted of late.

Addressing the event, Bhartiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait alleged that the Red Fort violence on Republic Day happened after "some youth were misguided and taken to the historic fort by government agencies". He also termed the mahapanchayat as a gathering of all communities and not just Jats.

Regarding the continuation of the protest against the three contentious farm laws, Tikait said "decisions about the crops will be made by farmers while the panchayats will decide what to be discussed with the government".

Some of our young people were misguided and taken to the Red Fort by government agencies

Rakesh Tikait, Bhartiya Kisan Union

Tikait further said two government representatives had come to meet him on Saturday but he refused to meet them separately as every discussion would be held collectively in the presence of all the 40 members of the Morcha.

The farmers' leader further said khap panchayats had emerged as a strong social system during the times of Raja Harshvardhan. "The government tried to divide people on the basis of Haryana and Punjab, and Sikh and non-Sikh but you should stay strong," he said.

President of Krantikari Kisan Union, Darshan Pal said, "The BJP government in Haryana has let people down and has no right to stay in power." He demanded repeal of the farm laws, enactment of a new law for ensuring minimum support price and withdrawal of "false cases" against the protesting farmers.

"We had clause-wise debates on the laws but lies were being spread about the discussions. Union Ministers have realised their mistake in enacting the laws. Sarv khap panchayat has immense strength to take this protest ahead and we hope that a united struggle will ensure victory," he said.

Meanwhile, the farmer unions have sought the intervention of the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) on the issue of farmers being arrested and internet services being stopped at the protest sites.

A letter written on January 31 to the Human Rights Commissioner, United Nations India, by the legal team of farmer unions stated: "We seek your attention towards the situation of farmers in India and to the ongoing agitation."

No 'ghar wapsi' till demands are met: Tikait

Asserting that the agitation against the Centre's farm laws is a people's movement that will not fail, Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait on Sunday said there will be no "ghar wapsi" till protesting farmers' demands are met. "There will be no 'ghar wapsi' till farmers' demands are met," he said.

Event in Nuh district attended by Cong leader

Another 'Kisan Mahapanchayat' was organised at Sunehda in Nuh district, where Haryana BKU chief Gurnam Singh Chaduni accused the government of being stubborn and not considering farmers' demands. The laws will destroy farmers, Chaduni said at the event, which was attended by Congress leader Aftab Ahmed.

Mamata fixing match with Left and Congress: Modi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

KICKING off his first electoral campaign in poll-bound West Bengal on Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unleashed a blistering attack on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee over wide-ranging issues, right from accusing her of not raising voice against the "international conspiracy" maligning India's image to settling a "match-fixing" deal with the Left Front and the Congress to resist the BJP's invincible momentum in Bengal's politics.

In a bid to woo Bengal's farmer electorate, Modi said after uprooting the current regime, the BJP-led government will not only approve the PM Kishan Samman Nidhi in Bengal in its first Cabinet meeting, but will also avail of the amount that is lying unused as the state government has not implemented the central scheme since its inception.

PM Modi waves at BJP activists during a rally in Bengal's Haldia on Sunday | PTI

Referring to the voices abroad supporting the farmers' movement in Delhi, Modi said, "There are international conspiracies to malign India's image. But have you heard anything on this from Didi (Mamata)? India will answer these conspiracies in full strength. Mamata gets angry when people raise slogan of *Bharat Mata Ki Jai* in front of her. But she doesn't get angry when people speak against India," said Modi while addressing a rally in Haldia, where he went to inaugurate ventures by the PSUs.

Taking a jibe at the TMC supremo, Modi accused her of being part of a "match-fixing nexus" to counter the BJP's rise in Bengal. "TMC, Congress and Left Front are holding closed-door meetings in Delhi to draw a battle line. Didi is fixing a match. But the people of Bengal will show you 'Ram card' in the final match," he said.

Aghadi mulls legal action against guv Koshyari

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE conflict between Maharashtra governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari and Maha Vikas Aghadi is likely to escalate over the appointment of 12 persons as Members of Legislative Council (MLC) through the governor's quota. The alliance has decided to explore legal options against the governor for not approving the 12 names recommended by the Cabinet.

The Cabinet had forwarded the 12 names in the first week of November last year. "It has been more than three months and still the governor has neither approved nor rejected these names. The governor cannot sit on the recommendation file for an indefinite period. He should not work as an agent of any particular party if he has assumed the constitutional office. This will set a wrong precedent for the future governor. This is nothing but a murder of democracy," Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut said.

Raut added that if the governor is not following constitutional norms, then the Centre should recall him. "Maha Vikas Aghadi is also exploring legal options against the governor for this anti-constitutional act. The governor cannot sit on the file submitted by the cabinet. He has to approve it as it is. But here nothing is happening and politics is being done over these 12 appointments."

Deputy CM Ajit Pawar said he plans to meet the governor. "I have been in government and politics for the last several years but never seen such kind of delay by the governor. There is some convention to be followed. But the governor cannot sit on the Cabinet-approved proposal for a long time."

The 12 whose names have been recommended are also getting impatient. "Our party recommended the names, but the governor has stuck the decision. Our dream of becoming an MLC has also got stuck," one of them said.

DDC ELECTION

NC, PDP flay Apni Party, govt over defections

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

AFTER the Apni Party wrested control of Srinagar and Shopian District Development Councils (DDC) through defections, the National Conference and PDP — the main constituents of six-party Gupkar Alliance — termed it a "mockery and murder" of democracy and alleged that the administration is facilitating defections for the "king's party", referring to the Apni party and its leader Altaf Bukhari. The Apni Party had won only 12 out of 280 seats in the DDC polls,

Talking to this news paper, PDP general secretary Ghulam Nabi Lone said people have lost faith in democracy. "Now the elected members are being purchased. We have issued a show-cause notice to the defected members," he said. NC spokesman Imran Nabi Dar alleged the government is facilitating defections. The party has decided to move the state election commission over the defections.

Independents top poll fray in Punjab

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE local body elections to urban civic bodies in Punjab, scheduled to be held on February 14, have come under the shadow of ongoing farmers' protest as a large number of candidates are fighting the polls as independents.

Sources said that most of the independent candidates owe allegiance to either SAD or the BJP. Realising that the public mood is against them, many candidates of these two parties are fighting the election as independents. "The farmers' anger is only towards the BJP but other political parties too are not taking any chances and are taking every step very cautiously," said a political analyst.

As per the state election commission, a total of 9,222 candidates are in the fray for the municipal polls, among them 2,822 are independents. They are followed by 2,037 of the ruling Congress; 1,569 of Shiromani Aklai Dal (SAD); 1,606 of AAP which is contesting these elections for the first time and 1,003 of the BJP which is for the first time contesting on its own without the support of SAD. As many as 15,305 candidates had filed nomination papers but after scrutiny and withdrawal, only 9,222 are left.

AAP Punjab chief Bhagwant Mann during a road show in Patiala district on Sunday | PTI

Eight municipal corporations and 109 municipal councils will be going to polls next week. The counting of votes will take place on February 17.

Vinod Kumar Binta, president of BJP's Bathnda district unit, is contesting as an independent from Bhucho Mandi Municipal Council. "We want to avoid any confrontation with farmers, hence I am contesting as independent," he said. Also, the saffron party has not filed any candidate in Kartarpur municipal council and Lohian and Mehtapur nagar panchayats.

The elections are seen as a mini-referendum on the Centre's farm laws. Other than BJP, all parties are trying to mobile the farmers' anger to strengthen their vote base.

Sources in the Congress said though the party was fighting all seats, in some municipal councils and nagar panchayats, candidates have filed papers as independents due to "political reasons".

Farmer kills self at Tikri, 2 more dead

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chandigarh

THREE farmers died at Tikri border on Sunday. While one committed suicide the two others died due to heart attack. More than 200 farmers have died during the entire course of the agitation.

Fifty-two-year-old Karamveer Singh hailing from Jind district was found hanging from a tree in a park around two kilometres away from the Tikri border. Singh left a suicide note which read, "Dear farmer brethren, the Modi government is giving date after date. No one knows when these black farm laws will be rolled back." Two other farmers — Sukhmander Singh from Moga and Manmohan Singh from Ludhiana — died due to heart attack.

Family of killed Navy sailor demands CBI probe, won't accept police version

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

FAMILY members of the 27-year-old Indian Navy sailor Suraj Kumar Dubey, who allegedly was abducted and died of burn injuries at Palghar in Maharashtra when he refused to pay a ransom of ₹10 lakh to the abductors, are not ready to believe the narrative and demanded CBI inquiry into the matter.

According to the officer's elder brother Neeraj Kumar Dubey, if he had been kidnapped the perpetrators must have contacted any of his family members for the ransom money, but none of them received any phone call and any kind of communication in this regard. "I have been told that my brother has been charred to death for a ransom of ₹10 lakh which is completing misguiding as we did not receive any phone calls on any of our phones," said Neeraj Kumar Dubey.

I've been told that my brother was killed for refusing to pay a ransom. This is misguiding because we didn't receive any phone calls on this

Neeraj, brother of deceased officer

The narrative of kidnapping being presented to them could not be believed as he had no enmity with anybody, he added.

"We demand a detailed inquiry by an independent agency like CBI into the case and status of a martyr to my brother," said the elder brother. The chronology of incidents clearly indicates that Suraj was killed for an ulterior motive which might also have involvement of some other officers of his department, he added.

When asked why he thinks so, Dubey said that they have doubts on one Dharmedra who also made a call on his father's mobile and inquired whether Suraj left home to join the duty. "We doubt that a person who introduced himself as Dharmendra and inquired on my father's phone asking whether Suraj left for Coimbatore or not within few minutes after he left home is involved in the killing," Dubey said.

Modi's reply in RS today may give cues to govt plan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi's reply to the discussion on the Motion of Thanks in the Rajya Sabha on Monday will be keenly watched for possible cues of the government's course of action in the ongoing farmers' agitation.

His reply in the Lok Sabha on the contentious agriculture laws is likely to take place on Tuesday.

"The plank of the international conspiracy against the country gives the BJP enough talking points in the election-bound states. That may play out in the reply to the motion of thanks by the PM," sources said. While the government has said it is open to discussions, the farmers unions have asserted that the talks could resume only when the cases filed by the police for the Republic Day violence are withdrawn.

At the same time, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar in his intervention during the discussion on the Motion of Thanks in the Rajya Sabha dropped enough hints of the government not yielding to the demands of the repeal of the laws.

The Lok Sabha is yet to see discussion on the motion of due to the unrelenting protests by the Opposition, particularly the Congress, which has been insisting on a separate discussion on the farmers' protests.

Bengal schools to reopen on February 12

Schools across West Bengal are reopening for Classes X to XII from February 12. The state government has decided to reopen the schools with proper SOPs and guidelines. The schools are reopening after a gap of 10 months, after being shut due to Covid-19 pandemic. Education Minister Partha Chatterjee said the schools will be thoroughly sanitised at regular intervals as per the SOPs. The consent of parents will be mandatory for students to attend the classes. Some students and teachers associations have demanded phase-wise resumption of classes and the education department officials said they would consider it.

PRANAB MONDAL
Our correspondent in West Bengal
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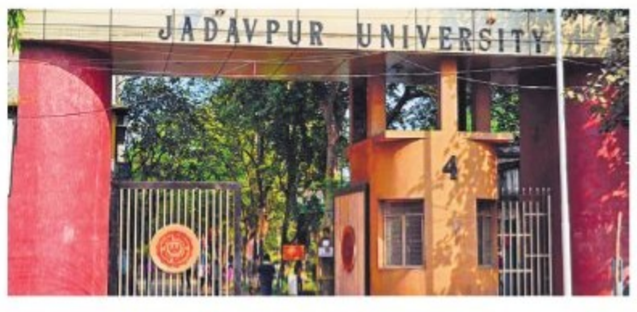
KOLKATA DIARY

Now, apply online for birth certificates

The Kolkata Municipal Corporation on Saturday launched an option to apply online for birth certificates through its website, an initiative that is likely to help those who find it difficult to visit civic body offices or who stay outside the city. Firhad Hakim, the chairperson of the board of administrators of the civic body, announced the launch. "People now can apply online. They can also submit the documents online. The certificate can be collected physically from our offices at a chosen date and time," said Hakim. Hospitals and nursing homes can also log in and enlist a child's birth records in the new system. Earlier, for a birth certificate one had to apply at the borough executive health officer's office or at the civic body's headquarters.

In-person certificate distribution at Jadavpur Univ

Jadavpur University announced that the distribution of original final degree certificates for the year 2020 will be in-person as the university could not hold its convocation because of the pandemic. The distribution will start on February 8 and continue till February 22. The notice issued to all the departments under the faculties of science, engineering and arts mentions specific dates for each department for the distribution of certificates. Those who will fail to collect will be despatched to their mailing addresses.



State joint entrance exam on July 11

The state joint entrance examination will be held on July 11 for admission to undergraduate courses in engineering, pharmacy and architecture in institutes across West Bengal. Last year, the test was held on February 2 as the admission board wanted to start the counselling process early so that BTech seats would not remain vacant in large numbers. This year the entrance exams have been delayed as the state board higher secondary exams are rescheduled to June. Details like the form fill-in schedule and information brochure will be uploaded on the board's website on or after February 15. The CBSE exam for Class X and XII will he held from Mar 4.

Second
major sowstorm in a week blanketed the US east coast on Sunday

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	3	-9	SNY	Los Angeles	21	9	SNY
Colombo	30	24	LR	Melbourne	24	14	LC
Dhaka	23	13	SNY	Moscow	-18	-19	LC
Dubai	24	15	SNY	New York	2	1	LC
Houston	17	6	LC	Singapore	30	24	LR
Istanbul	16	11	LC	Toronto	1	-2	LC
London	6	3	LC	Washington	3	0	LC

Thousands rally for second day against Myanmar coup

Despite internet blackout, close to 1,00,000 protesters hit the streets in capital Yangon; big demonstrations against military in other cities

KATHMANDU

TENS of thousands of protesters poured onto the streets across Myanmar on Sunday in the biggest anti-coup rallies yet and biggest demonstrations since 2007, as an internet blackout failed to stifle growing outrage at the military's ouster of Aung San Suu Kyi.

Some estimates put the number of protesters in Yangon at 1,00,000 and there were reports of large demonstrations in other cities condemning the coup that brought Myanmar's 10-year experiment with democracy to a crashing halt. Backed by a din of car horns, chanting protesters in Yangon held up banners saying "Justice for Myanmar", while others waved the signature red flags of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) party as they marched to City Hall.

"I completely despise the military coup and I am not afraid of a crackdown," said Kyi Phyu Kyaw, a 20-year-old university student. "I will join every day until Amay Suu (Mother Suu) is freed." Protesters in Yangon began dispersing in the evening, after announcing that they would return to the streets at 10 am local time on Monday, indicating no let-up in resistance.

They also called on civil servants and people employed in other industries to not go to work and join the protests.

Protesters march during a demonstration against military coup in Yangon | AFP

Many flashed the three-finger salute inspired by the *Hunger Games* films, which became a symbol of resistance during the pro-democracy protests in Thailand last year.

"We will fight until the end," said Ye Kyaw, an 18-year-old economics student.

"The next generation can have democracy if we end this military dictatorship."

There was a large demonstration also in the capital Naypyidaw, despite the heavy military presence there, while tens of thousands rallied in Mandalay, Myanmar's second-biggest city. Both those protests included people on armadas of motorcycles, waving flags and holding banners.

There were also demonstrations in Mawlamyine city and the Magway region. The rallies were largely peaceful, but local media reported that in the southeastern city of Myawaddy, police fired warning shots in the air to disperse a group of protesters.

The surge in popular dissent over the weekend overcame a nationwide internet blockade, similar in magnitude to an earlier shutdown that coincided with the arrest of Suu Kyi and other senior leaders on Monday. Online calls to protest have prompted bold displays of defiance, including the nightly deafening clamour of people banging pots and pans —a practice traditionally associated with driving out evil spirits.

NetBlocks said internet services were partially restored on some mobile networks in on Sunday. *Agencies*

Britney Spears

Documentary fuels calls to 'free' pop star Britney Spears

NEW YORK

THE controversy over who steers Britney Spears' life is starting to boil. Spears, 39, has lived under the strict arrangement barring her from managing her own life and finances since her infamous unraveling, which in 2008 led a California court to place her under a unique legal guardianship largely governed by her father

The conservatorship has come under increased scrutiny in recent years, especially after Spears canceled her second Las Vegas residency in 2019 and went on indefinite professional hiatus. Now a feature-length documentary on FX produced in partnership with *The New York Times* probes the popular narrative on Spears.

The film emphasizes the role of the early-2000s celebrity journalism machine in her collapse, depicting Spears as a relentlessly pursued media target — the blonde, bubbly, wildly successful American princess whose dirty laundry triggered the schadenfreude of a nation.

The documentary *Framing Britney Spears* suggests the performer who once ruled global pop was used by some of her handlers and pummeled to the point of emotional ruin by an exploitative media environment, in which images of her went for upwards of $1 million. The film employs the extensive cache of footage of the star who came of age as mediatised consumption of celebrity, including gossip blogs and reality television, exploded. *AFP*

In a first, Pope picks woman to fill senior post at Church body

VATICAN CITY

POPE Francis has broken with Catholic tradition to appoint a woman as an undersecretary of the synod of bishops, the first to hold the post with voting rights in a body that studies major questions of doctrine.

Frenchwoman Nathalie Becquart is one of the two new undersecretaries named on Saturday to the synod, where she has been a consultant for the two years.

The appointment signals the pontiff's desire "for a greater participation of women in the process of discernment and decision-making in the church", said Cardinal Mario Grech, the secretary-general of the synod.

"During the previous synods, the number of women participating as experts and listeners has increased," he said. "With the nomination of Sister Nathalie Becquart and her possibility of participating in voting, a door has opened," he added.

The synod is led by bishops and cardinals who have voting rights and also comprises experts who cannot vote, with the next gathering scheduled for autumn 2022.

A special synod on the Amazon in 2019 saw 35 female "auditors" invited to the assembly, but none could vote. *AFP*

Nathalie Becquart | AFP

Becquart to have voting rights in synod

Cardinal Grech told Vatican News Service that as an under-secretary of the synod of Bishops, Nathalie Becquart will have the right to vote in future synods, giving her the power to shape future decisions of the church. A synod is a powerful body of the church that can decide on matters of doctrine

GEORGE SHULTZ

Reagan's top diplomat, who helped end Cold War, dies

WASHINGTON

FORMER US president Ronald Reagan's longtime secretary of state, George P Shultz (pic), who spent most of the 1980s trying to improve relations with the Soviet Union and forging a course for peace in the West Asia, has died. He was 100.

Shultz died on Saturday at his home on the campus of Stanford University, according to the Hoover Institution, a think tank.

Shultz held three major Cabinet posts in Republican administrations during a long career of public service. He was labour secretary and treasury secretary under President Richard Nixon before spending more than six years as Reagan's secretary of state.

As the nation's chief diplomat, Shultz negotiated the first-ever treaty to reduce the size of the Soviet Union's ground-based nuclear arsenals. The 1987 accord was a historic attempt to begin to reverse the nuclear arms race. *AP*

ASIA MATTERS

PAKISTAN

Sindh govt issues order to shift Pearl's killers to rest house

Pakistani authorities have issued a notification to shift British-born al-Qaeda terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, the main accused in the murder of US journalist Daniel Pearl in 2002, from jail to a newly-built facility within the boundaries of the Central Prison in Karachi. The notification on Saturday came days after a three-member bench of the Supreme Court headed by Justice Umar Ata Bandial ordered to shift 46-year-old Sheikh from the death row cell to a rest house run by the government. All suspects "are to be shifted to the newly constricted Rooms for meeting of spouses with Prisoners situated outside of main prison and within boundary of Central Prison Karachi, the Express Tribune newspaper reported, citing the notification issued by the Sindh Home Department on February 6.

SRI LANKA

Vaccination for general public to begin next month

Sri Lankan health authorities say they will begin inoculating the general public against the Covid-19 from next month. At present, the ministry is conducting a vaccination drive to inoculate more than 260,000 frontline health workers and selected military and police officers. The vaccination began last week after neighbouring India donated 500,000 doses of the Oxford-AstraZenica vaccine, which is the only vaccine approved by the regulatory body in Sri Lanka. By Saturday, more than half of the country's health workers and frontline military have been vaccinated against Covid-19.

BANGLADESH

Countrywide Covid vaccine drive kicks off

Bangladesh on Sunday launched its nationwide Covid-19 vaccination drive with lawmakers along with top administration and health officials taking the first shots of the vaccine provided by India. "We are launching the campaign to save lives. This vaccine is completely safe," Health Minister Zahid Maleque said while inaugurating the campaign at a virtual event at the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) here. Maleque, who took the jab at Sheikh Russel National Gastroliver Institute and Hospital, urged people not to spread propaganda against the vaccine, saying it has no side effects. Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain was among the high profile figures to receive the vaccine under a priority list. Bangladesh has so far purchased 30 million doses from the Serum Institute of India

Xi doesn't have a democratic bone, says Biden

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden, in an interview aired on Sunday, said his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping does not have "a democratic bone" in his body.

"He's very tough. He doesn't have—and I don't mean it as a criticism, just the reality— he doesn't have a democratic, small D, bone in his body," Biden told *CBS News*.

The president said he anticipates US rivalry with China will take the form of "extreme competition" rather than conflict between the two world powers. "I've said to him all along, that we need not have a conflict. But there's going to be extreme competition," Biden said. "I'm not going to do it the way (Donald) Trump did. We're going to focus on international rules of the road." *Agencies*

EXPRESS READ

Activist missing after brush with Chinese govt

Beijing: Chinese authorities have given no word on the status of legal rights activist Guo Feixiong after he was blocked from leaving the country last week to join his family in the United States, his sister said on Tuesday.

US teen dies after being dragged by family SUV

Wichita: A 13-year-old girl in the US state of Kansas died after being dragged for several miles by her family's SUV that had been stolen outside a restaurant. The girl was in the back seat while her family went to get food on Saturday when a thief got into the driver's seat and took off.

BANGALORE CO-OPERATIVE MILK UNION LTD.,
DR MH MARIGOWDA ROAD: BANGALORE – 560029
Phone: 26096295, Fax: 25536597. Email: bamultrust@gmail.com

No.Bamul/Trust/E-Tender/ND/46/2020-21 Date: 05.02.2021

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal)

The Bangalore Co-Operative Milk Union Ltd., Bangalore invites, tender from the Interested & eligible IRDA Registered and Qualified Insurance companies to provide Group Term Life Insurance (Only Death Cover) for active milk producers and staff dependents of dairy Co-operative societies for the period of One year.

Tenderer are advised to note the qualification criteria specifi ed in Section VII to qualify for award of the contract.

Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/.** Interested renderers may obtain further information at the same address. The Bangalore Co-operative Milk Union Ltd., will not be held responsible for the website problems if any, last date submission or non-receipt of the same. Also may contact Help line No: 080-26096295, Email -bamultrust@gmail.com.

Date of commencement of Tender	**From 08.02.2021**
Last date for Tender Clarification	**On 20.02.2021 within 5.00 PM**
Last date for Submission of Tender	**22.02.2021 before 5.30 PM**
Date of opening of Technical Tender-Part-1 &Commercial Tender-Part-2	**On 24.02.2021 at 11.30. AM On 25.02.2021 at 12.30. PM**
Place of Opening of Technical and Commercial Tender: **Bangalore Co-operative Milk Union, Board Room, Bangalore Dairy, Dr.M.H. Marigowda road, Dharmaram college post, Bangalore-29**	

The details of the tender fees, EMD & Security Deposit and Tender Terms & Conditions are available in e-procurement portal **(https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** for verification.

Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR
(Tender Inviting Authority)
For Bangalore Co-operative Milk Union Ltd.,

HDFC

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LTD. CIN L70100MH1977PLC019916
Regd. Office: Ramon House, H T Parekh Marg, 169, Backbay Reclamation, Churchgate, Mumbai- 400020
Regional Office : HDFC House, No.51, Kasturaba Road, Bangalore - 560001. **Ph :** 080 41183000
Fax: 080 22275754, **E-mail :** customercare.bang@hdfc.com, **Website:** www.hdfc.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC Limited)** under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notice under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the Demand Notice, within 60 days from the date of the said Notice, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused/are getting the said Notice to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notice are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC Limited, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amount indicated hereinbelow in their name(s), together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as detailed in the said Demand Notice from the date mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset has been mortgaged to HDFC Limited by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Attention of the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	(Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(f)
1	**(1) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Mother of Mr. Dey Dipankar [Borrower, since deceased], And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) of Mr. Dey Dipankar,** 41, Narayanappa Block, 5th C Main Road, R T Nagar, Bengaluru, 560032. **(2) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Mother of Mr. Dey Dipankar [Borrower, since deceased], And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) of Mr. Dey Dipankar,** No.16/16 Akbar Road, Azone Durgapur (M Corp), Durgapur Steel Town West, Barddhaman west Bengal - 713204. **(3) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Mother of Mr. Dey Dipankar [Borrower, since deceased],** And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) of Mr. Dey Dipankar, Floor-3rd,,Apartment-A317, DS Max Spring Field, Sy. No 4/1,2,5 Of Doddagubbi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru-562 110. **(4) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Mother in law of Mrs. Chowdhury Swagata [Co-Borrower, since deceased], And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) of Mrs. Chowdhury Swagata**, 41, Narayanappa Block, 5th C Main Road, R T Nagar, Bengaluru, 560032. **(5) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Mother of Mr. Dey Dipankar [Co-Borrower, since deceased], And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) of Mr. Dey Dipankar,** No.16/16 Akbar Road, Azone Durgapur (M Corp), Durgapur Steel Town West, Barddhaman west Bengal - 713204. **(6) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Mother in law of Mrs. Chowdhury Swagata [Co-Borrower, since deceased], And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) of Mrs. Chowdhury Swagata,** Floor-3rd,,Apartment-A317, DS Max Spring Field, Sy. No 4/1,2,5 Of Doddagubbi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru-562 110.	**Loan A/c No: (1) 615977255 Rs.38,72,091/- (2) 616483596 Rs.1,53,674/- Total Rs. 40,25,765/- (Rupees Forty Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Five Only) as on 31.01.2021**	**01.02.2021 N.P.A. Date: (e) 30.09.2019**	All that piece and parcel of the residential 3 bed room apartment bearing Flat No.317(A Block), on the Third Floor, of the building known as "DX –MAX SPRING FIELD", having a super built up area of 1466 Sq. Feet along with one car parking bearing No.317(A-Block), with proportionate share of 467 sq. feet of undivided share, right title and interest in the property on which the building is constructed and is situated on land bearing Sy No.4/1, 4/2 and 4/5 situated at Doddagubbi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, conversion Order dated 21/05/2013, in vide Conversion Order No. ALN(EBB) SR/226/12-13 for residential use issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Dist, Bangalore. PID E KHATHA No.150200401100320067.

*with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to HDFC Limited as aforesaid, then HDFC Limited shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC Limited. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 08.02.2021
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
HDFC Ltd., Under SARFAESI ACT, 2002

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED
Registered Office: 27 BKC , C 27, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051. Branch Office: No. 22, Kotak House, M G Road, Bangalore-560001.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. (KMBL)** under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued **Demand Notices** under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective **Demand Notice(s)** issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s)to pay to **KMBL,** within **60 days** from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said **Demand Notice(s),** from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/ writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to **KMBL** by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
Loan Account No: 8075TL0100000007 & 4912206598 M/s. Jai Maruthi Service Station, Represented By Its Proprietor Mr. Muniraju H J, Dealers Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Sulibele Road, Kammaveri Pete Kote, Hoskote-562114. **(Borrower). 2. Mr. Muniraju H J, M/s. Jai Maruthi Service Station,** Sulibele Road, Kammaveri Pete Kote, Hoskote-562114. **Also At: Mr. Muniraju H J,** Melinpet, Terubedi, Hoskote-562114. **(Co Borrower / Guarantor). 3. Mr. Jayaram Krishnappa,** No.22, 2nd Cross, Doddjunjappa Layout, 3rd Main, Hoskote-562114. **(Guarantor)**	**Demand Notice Date: 21-Jan-21 Rs.1,60,44,040.08/- (Rupees One Crore Sixty Lakh Forty Four Thousand Forty and Paisa Zero Eight Only) as on 20-01-2021**	All that Part and Parcel of property bearing Site No.22, Municipal Khata No.11013/391/4, Swamy Vivekanand Nagar, Hoskote Twon-562114, measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 66.5 feet towards Eastern side 64 feet towards Western side (60X66.5X64/2) or 3915 Sq Feet and **bounded on: East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No.35, **North by:** Site No.23, **South by:** Government Kaluve. together with all existing building and structures thereon and building and structures as may be erected/ constructed there upon any time from/after the date of respective mortgages and all additions thereto and all fixtures and furniture's and plant and machinery attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth, both present and future.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to **KMBL** as aforesaid, **KMBL** shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **KMBL.** Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 08.02.2021, Place: Hoskote **Sd/- Authorized Officer, For Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.**

₹12,980 cr Withdrawals by mutual funds from equities in January 2021, as they continued their selling spree for the eighth consecutive month.

EQUITY TALKS

HOW TO MAKE SENSE OF TOO MUCH INFORMATION

Amid a flood of information, you may wonder about the limit to which you can process financial, economic or market data

RAJAS KELKAR

IN financial markets, knowledge is everything. Over the past week, there was an information deluge. The government presented the Union Budget 2021 last Monday. Before that, the government released the Economic Survey for 2020-21. As you were digesting all that data, corporates continued to flood the market with quarterly results announcements.

Last Friday, the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy committee left key borrowing rates unchanged. The six-member committee continued to follow an 'accommodative' credit policy stance as the government announced a higher borrowing for the year 2020-21.

As you process that information, you may wonder about the limit to which you can process financial, economic or stock market information.

Several factors influence your finances. Interest rates being one of them. They would control your borrowing, your savings in banks or fixed deposits and also have an impact on your investments in financial markets. Quarterly financial results influence businesses and virtually your investment in the stock market. Macro-economic data and budget-related announcements not only affect your spending, but savings and investments as well.

Inflation and interest rates

You need to understand the interplay of inflation and interest rates. The Reserve Bank of India's professional forecasters' outlook indicates that the consumer price inflation is expected to be at 5 per cent in the quarter to March 2021 and the first quarter of the next financial year to June 2021. It would moderate to 4.1 per cent subsequently. The RBI's household inflation expectations survey suggests that over 88 per cent of households expect inflation to increase in the next year. Most households are worried about rising food prices.

However, the RBI's monetary policy committee does not appear to be concerned about food inflation. "The bumper Kharif crop raised prospects of a good rabi harvest. There are larger winter arrivals of key vegetables and softer egg and poultry demand on avian flu fears and other factors auguring a benign inflation outcome in the months ahead," said the committee on the inflation outlook in a statement. However, as India ends lockdowns, the pent-up demand for goods and services from businesses going back to work would push up prices, the committee pointed out.

The other issue that could put pressure on interest rates is the high government borrowing programme. Overall, the interest rate situation seems balanced for the RBI committee to hold current levels to support economic growth. That means your borrowing rates can remain stable for a while. You could opt for a home loan now or negotiate a better rate on your existing home loan from your bank.

Average home loan rates hover between six per cent and seven per cent. They are likely to remain there for some time. If you have always been thinking about owning a home, it may be an excellent time to work towards it.

Growth and stock markets

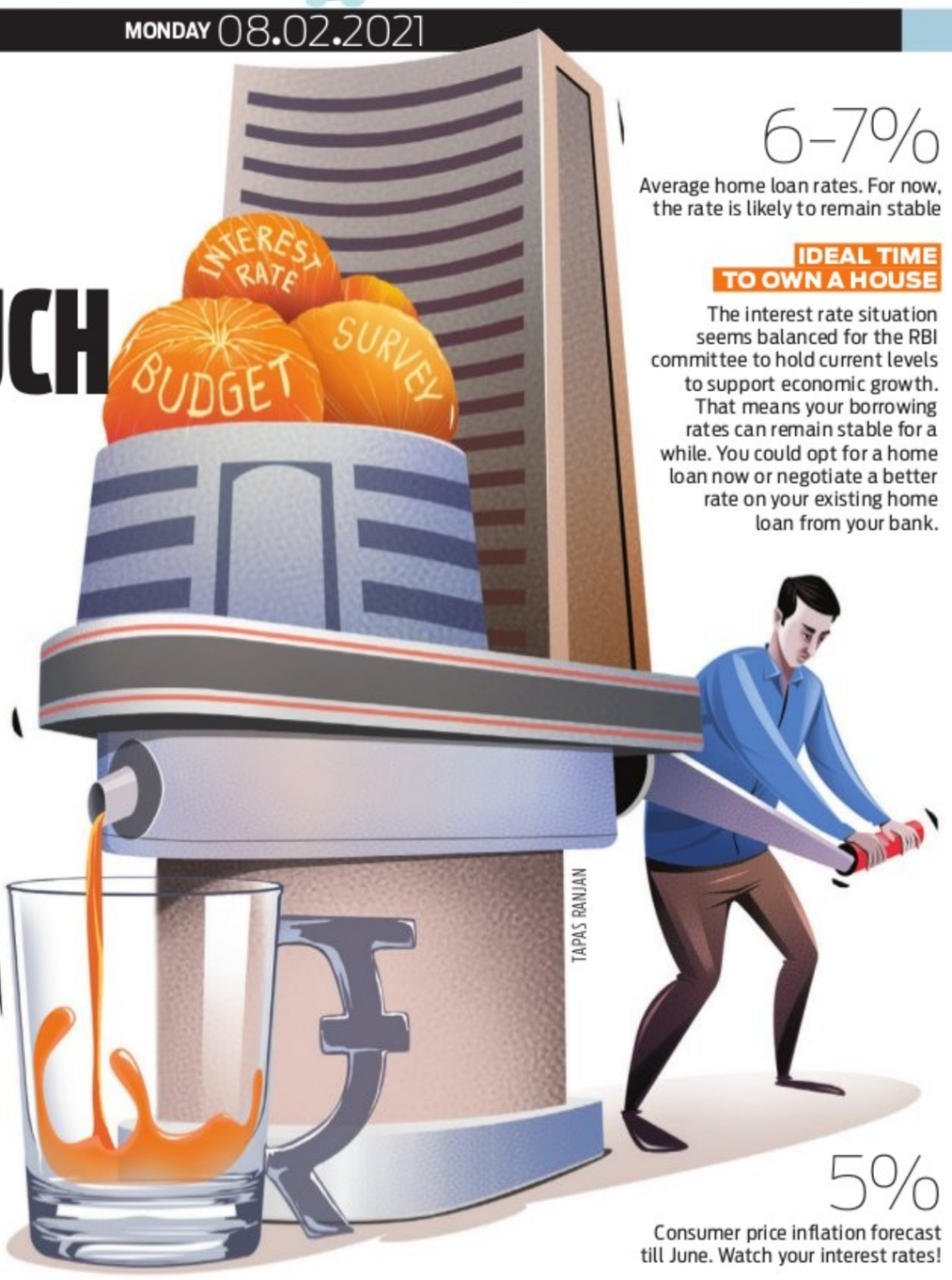
The outlook for economic growth is buoyant. Last week's Budget announcement was received as a 'pro-growth' budget encouraging businesses to spend more on building capacity. The higher government borrowing will be used for capital expenditure where the government would invest in roads, transport and other asset creation. That should be good news for businesses in the construction sector. They can bid for government contracts and generate new revenue. The RBI's monetary policy committee has said that the urban demand and demand for contact-intensive services would strengthen with the substantial fall in Covid-19 cases and vaccination spread.

"Consumer confidence is reviving, and business expectations of manufacturing, services and infrastructure remain upbeat," the monetary policy committee said on the growth outlook projecting a 10.5 per cent growth in 2021-22. The IMF expects India's economic growth to bounce back to over 11 per cent in 2021-22.

For the corporate sector, that is good news. Prospects for revenue and profits have improved. If you are an investor, stock markets are already at a record high. Over the past six months, large caps, mid-caps and small-caps have all gained 30-40 per cent in value. Investing is a challenge for everyone. You may wonder about identifying the right companies.

The year-long lockdown has put undue pressure on the balance-sheets of small companies. However, many companies in the unorganised sector have been affected adversely and are unlikely to revive soon. That has helped companies with strong balance-sheets in the consumer, electrical equipment, farm equipment and other manufacturing sectors. You may want to seek expert advice before buying into winners of the lockdown 2020.

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)



6–7% Average home loan rates. For now, the rate is likely to remain stable

IDEAL TIME TO OWN A HOUSE

The interest rate situation seems balanced for the RBI committee to hold current levels to support economic growth. That means your borrowing rates can remain stable for a while. You could opt for a home loan now or negotiate a better rate on your existing home loan from your bank.

5% Consumer price inflation forecast till June. Watch your interest rates!

MONEY-WISE

BUDGETS AND THE IMPACT OF EXPECTATIONS

Where there are hopes, the end result is often disappointment. Where there is fear, the result is often relief.

Last year, prior to the Union Budget, there were hopes of a withdrawal of the Capital Gains Tax on Equities given the dual taxation due to a high Securities Transaction Tax also being simultaneously levied.

There was also hope of dilution if not abolition of the triple taxed Dividend Distribution, besides the eternal fantasy of a cut in individual Income Tax Rates and a rationalization of Tax Slabs. Suffice to say, nothing of that sort happened and owing to stretched valuations and the advent of Covid-19, the equity markets received a slam dunk after an initial uptick.

This year, there weren't too many hopes. Instead, there were fears of re-imposition of Wealth Tax or Inheritance Tax and the inevitability of a Covid cess or surcharge. Again, these fears too were belied and this triggered an immediate 2000 point Sensex salute. Well, no one is complaining but the correlation between the key equity indices, pre-Budget expectations and post-Budget realities cannot be missed.

With so many electronic media 'Experts' having expended hot air on the impact of the Budget, both real and imaginary, my job stands simplified and limited to cutting through the chaff and sticking to a few pertinent micros that might actually impact my valued readers. So, how has this Budget affected the primary asset classes in India viz. Equity, Debt and Gold?

Given the quantum of liquidity sloshing around and the expectations of a weakening US dollar, equities across Emerging Markets and especially China and India, are rising as if on steroids. While valuations appear stretched and have to inevitably snap sometime, it will take a seriously adverse global event to suck up the liquidity. Also, given the low base effect, the GDP growth in India for the next financial year will be magnified and may provide double digit optics.

In response to the mutual fund industry's lobbying to put its equity schemes on par with the tax free ULIPs. The reaction has been to tax ULIPs with a premium above ₹2.5 lakh per annum on par with equity mutual funds. This also suggests that the removal of Capital Gains tax on Equity Mutual Funds could now remain a pipe-dream.

On the debt investment side, there were a couple of yet to be detailed announcements pertaining to strengthening Fixed Deposit Insurance as well as the proposed issuance of tax efficient Infrastructure bonds. The interest on Employee Provident Fund (EPF) contributions in excess of ₹2.5 lakh has been made taxable and in the case of debt funds, the enhanced government borrowing program could trim returns.

The reduction in customs duty on Gold albeit partially countervailed though by an agri-infra cess, may weaken Gold prices in the near term, but there can be no mistaking it's utility as an in-built hedge in an equity heavy portfolio.

Overall then, the Budget has not significantly altered the scope for investing in the aforesaid asset classes. So, stay focused on your asset allocation plans and goals, and side-step the periodic distractions with all its high decibel accompaniments.

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com

Tax on EPF interest will not impact all salaried individuals

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has proposed to tax the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), albeit only the interest income on contributions exceeding ₹2.5 lakh in a year from April 1. It will also be applicable for GPF contributions, i.e. for government employees.

"Any contribution you are making to Provident Fund, that is in excess of ₹2.5 lakh, will be in a separate basket and interest on that corpus will be taxable. It will work in the same manner as the interest income on fixed deposits is taxed," Kamlesh Varshney, joint secretary, tax policy division at the Central Board of Direct Taxes said at a post-Budget session organised by industry body Assocham. While this has caused concern to salaried people contributing to EPF, let's have a look at who will be impacted by the move.

Who will be impacted?

Tax experts claim that if your current basic salary is below ₹1,04,167, then you may not be impacted. However, if your salary is above this you will end up paying tax on interest earned on your extra EPF contribution. Basically, if your monthly contribution is more than ₹20,833, you will have to pay tax on the interest earned on your contribution. In case employees are opting for equal VPF contribution, in this scenario you will not be impacted if your basic salary is ₹52,083 or below. However, if your basic salary is more than this, you will either have to reduce your VPF contribution or end up paying taxes.

The impact of this move will be more visible when the new wage code comes into effect from April 1 this year. As per the new code, the base 'salary' is expanded on which EPF contribution is calculated.

The 12 per cent EPF will then be calculated as a percentage of a larger base 'salary' and therefore the annual EPF contribution for many will go up. This will particularly affect those who have lower basic salary but higher total remuneration.

Rationale behind the move

Sources from CBDT say that many High Networth Individuals (HNIs) were misusing PF provision. They were deducting a major portion of salary to PF in order to get benefits of high tax-free interest.

"There are more than 4.5 crore EPF contributors, of which more than 1.23 lakh accounts belong to HNIs who have been parking huge sums on monthly basis. As of FY19, HNI's contribution was ₹62,500 crore. One of the highest contributors, for instance, had a balance of ₹103 crore in his PF account, while another held more than ₹86 crore. The top 20 HNIs have about ₹825 crore in their accounts, while the top 100 have a balance of over ₹2,000 crore. The purpose of making tax-free contributions was for tax free retirement corpus and not for tax evasion," the official explained.

ULIPs lose sheen as tax-savers for high income investors, clarity on debt sought

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

EVER since the Union Budget of 2018 introduced a long-term capital gains tax on equity investments, Unit Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs) have become extremely popular—not necessarily for their insurance cover, but because they were one of the few instruments that high net individuals could use to realise tax-exempt returns.

So far, ULIPs had Exempt-Exempt-Exempt (EEE) status, i.e, the investment in ULIPs, accrued gains, and the final maturity amount were all exempt from taxation. But the Budget of 2021 presented last week has plugged this avenue by proposing to treat the returns from ULIPs with annual premiums of ₹2.5 lakh and above on par with equity investments. This is not a problem for those allocating less than ₹2.5 lakh per annum for

ULIP premiums, nor is it an issue for those with existing ULIPs— the new regime will be applicable only for plans begun from April 1, 2021.

For existing ULIPs, investors will continue to enjoy EEE status until maturity. The proposed regime will also bypass those treating ULIPs as insurance products and not investments, since the maturity amount received on the death of the policyholder will continue to enjoy EEE status.

However, if you are one of those who were planning to begin a ULIP plan with annual premiums over ₹2.5 lakh to cut down your taxable income, you are now out of luck.

According to the finance minister's proposal, the maturity amount for such plans will now be liable for capital gains tax (10 per cent for periods above 1 year and 15 per cent for shorter durations) on par with equity mutual funds. Simple enough, but insurance experts say that tax authorities will need to clarify a few aspects of the proposed tax regime. For instance, one does not know whether ULIPs that are based on debt funds will be liable for the new tax. Because unlike equity mutual funds, many ULIPs offer investors/policyholders the option to go for either equity or debt schemes. The budget memorandum is unclear whether the capital gains tax will be applicable for debt-based ULIPs with premiums above ₹2.5 lakh per annum or whether they will continue to enjoy EEE status.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

Current Price ₹2,721

Target Price ₹3,250

HDFC

We are constructive on the Indian RE space, and HDFC being a leader with ~16% market share, is likely to be a key beneficiary of the same. We like HDFC's ability to gain profitable market share despite significant competitive pressures. Additionally, the real estate market has seen a swift turnaround. We expect the company to deliver core RoE of 12–14% over the medium term.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *The New Indian Express*.

EXPRESS READ

PM inaugurates infra projects in Haldia, WB

Haldia: Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation several infrastructure projects in the oil and gas sector in this port town on Sunday, including the ambitious 348-km Dobhi-Durgapur natural gas pipeline built by state-run GAIL. Modi said that apart from laying gas pipelines across the country under the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project, the focus is on reducing the natural gas price.

Business confidence rises 29.6%: NCAER

New Delhi: The Business Confidence Index developed by the Delhi-based economic think tank NCAER rose 29.6 per cent between second and third quarter of the current financial year on the back of rollout of Covid-19 vaccines in different countries, including India. The survey respondents expect both financial position of firms and overall economic conditions to improve in the next six months.

INSURANCE

Standardised cover for vector-borne diseases on the cards

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

IN a bid to boost the penetration of health insurance policies in the country, insurance regulator IRDAI has suggested insurers to provide a new policy — Mashak Rakshak — effective April 1, 2021. This policy aims to provide treatment or hospitalization cover for those who are diagnosed with vector-borne diseases.

In a post-pandemic environment with heightened sensitivity around health concerns, the policy cover can help address the woes of a majority of the population, which are impacted by the infectious diseases. According to the guidelines issued by IRDAI, the new health insurance policy envisages to cover treatment costs between ₹10,000 and ₹2 lakh if a person is diagnosed with the vector-borne diseases like dengue, malaria, chikungunya, etc.

The tenure of the policy will be 12 months and can be renewed by paying premium after the end of the 12 month period. The insurers will have to fix the premium to be paid by policy holders but will not differentiate the policy cover costs geography-wise.

As per the new regulations, the minimum entry shall be 18 years for principal insured and maximum age at entry shall not be less than 65 years for all the insured members including principal insured.

"This is a good product introduced well in time considering the upcoming monsoon as that's when people suffer the most from vector-borne diseases and with the fear of Covid-19 still around, I believe it will be a good offering for all," said Gurdeep Singh Batra, Head - Retail Underwriting, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance.

The IRDAI has said that the lump sum benefit equal to 100 per cent of the sum insured (excluding the amount paid under diagnosis cover) shall be payable on a positive diagnosis of any of the following vector-borne disease (s) requiring hospitalization for a minimum continuous period of 72 hours.

The diseases include Dengue fever, Malaria, Filaria (Lymphatic Filariasis), Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis and Zika Virus. Under the diagnosis cover, two per cent of the sum insured shall be payable on positive diagnosis (through laboratory examination and confirmed by the medical practitioner) of every covered vector-borne disease on the first diagnosis during the cover period, subject to policy terms and conditions.

Zlatan crosses 500 career club goals

AC Milan star Zlatan Ibrahimovic reached a new milestone during 4-0 win against Crotone in Serie A on Sunday. The 39-year-old scored a double to cross 500 goals while playing for a club.

ENGLAND TURN ON THE HEAT

Reeling at 257/6 on Day 3, India face a tough task as they are still 122 runs away from making Root & Co bat again

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

INDIA'S worst fears are coming true. Day 3 is considered as 'moving day' in Test cricket. And England after batting for more than two days for a first innings total of 578, are moving the first Test the way they wanted as India were placed at 257/6 at stumps, still 122 runs away to avoid follow-on. The pitch, which came under sharp focus over the first two days with most expecting it to be on the flatter side, isn't what it is. There is bounce and sharp turn on offer and by all means, it is only going to deteriorate further as India have a huge task ahead of them to prevent England from going 1-0 up in the four-match series.

> **There is a bit of spin but it's still a good pitch to bat on. First two days, it was really flat and our bowlers did a fantastic job. It was a pitch where there was not much assistance and we were expecting a bit more out it.**
>
> Cheteshwar Pujara

As England kept batting into the first session of Day 3, one wondered if they were giving themselves less time to bowl India out twice on this pitch. But they have been adamant that with scoreboard pressure, India would find it difficult on this surface, no matter how the rest of the world saw it.

"There is a bit of spin but it's still a good pitch to bat on. First two days, it was really flat and our bowlers did a fantastic job. It was a pitch where there was not much assistance and we were expecting a bit more out it," Cheteshwar Pujara, who scored 73 said.

Even though there was assistance for England bowlers on Sunday, it was not a pitch where batting was difficult. It was far from it as Rishabh Pant showed during his whirlwind knock of 91 off 88 balls (9x4, 5x6). He was the first one from the Indian batting line-up to face the most challenging conditions that the pitch offered. Left-arm spinner Jack Leach was expected to make the most out of those roughs that were there to make life difficult for left-handed batsmen. With India placed at 92/4, Joe Root brought in Leach soon after the arrival of Pant. The third, fourth and sixth delivery that Pant faced off Leach went over the long-on ropes for six. And there was another in his fourth over too, as even Pujara cut loose and Pant brought-up his fifty off just 40 balls. Till the time Pant remained in the middle, Leach's figures read: 8-0-77-0. The most potent threat in the bowling unit neutralised through aggressive approach, clarity and self-backing.

England spinner Dom Bess (right) celebrates after dismissing India's Virat Kohli. Bess was the pick of the bowlers with four wickets on Sunday | SPORTZPICS

It was anything but similar to what the top-5 did with the exception of Pujara. Over two days India saw their bowlers fail to get anything off the pitch, where it is still possible to negate the spinners. The only threat was with the new-ball as India found the SG Ball get soft as early as the 30th over. See off the new ball and runs were up for grabs. Instead, India ended up losing four wickets inside 27 overs. Pujara and Pant showed during their 119-run stand how it still was a good wicket to bat. Had it not been for bad luck, Pujara's pull, ricocheted off the short leg-fielder to be caught by Rory Burns at mid-wicket, there was every chance he would still be batting.

The key was not to lose early wickets. But with Jofra Archer getting lift and movement, India allowed England to land a few punches. Rohit Sharma pushed one outside off, only to edge it to the wicketkeeper. Shubman Gill, who looked comfortable in his stay, drove on the air to mid-on where James Anderson completed a diving catch. Skipper Virat Kohli hardly looked his usual self and was dismissed caught at short-leg off Dom Bess while playing for a non-existent turn way outside off as he appeared to close the face of the bat a touch too early. If this wasn't enough, Ajinkya Rahane gifted Bess his wicket off a full-toss with Root grabbing a diving one-handed catch leaving India in all sorts of trouble.

"Batting wise, we could have batted better, there were some soft dismissals which didn't go in our favour. The way I got out or Jinks got out... I felt those two wickets were crucial for us. We have to move on from here, and tomorrow (Monday) will be a crucial day for us," Pujara said.

SCOREBOARD

England 1st innings (overnight 555-8): Bess lbw Bumrah 34, Leach (not out) 14, Anderson b Ashwin 1, **Extras** (b7, lb17, nb20, w1) 45, **Total** (190.1 ovs, all out) **578.**

FOW: 1-63, 2-63, 3-263, 4-387, 5-473, 6-477, 7-525, 8-525, 9-567.

Bowling: Ishant 27-7-52-2, Bumrah 36-7-84-3, Ashwin 55.1-5-146-3, Nadeem 44-4-167-2, Washington 26-2-98-0, Rohit 2-0-7-0.

India 1st innings: Rohit c Buttler b Archer 6, Gill c Anderson b Archer 29, Pujara c Burns b Bess 73, Kohli c Pope b Bess 11, Rahane c Root b Bess 1, Pant c Leach b Bess 91, Washington (batting) 33, Ashwin (batting) 8, **Extras** (b4, lb1) 5, **Total** (74 overs, 6 wickets) **257.**

FOW: 1-19, 2-44, 3-71, 4-73, 5-192, 6-225.

Bowling: Anderson 11-3-34-0, Archer 16-3-52-2, Stokes 6-1-16-0, Leach 17-2-94-0, Bess 23-5-55-4, Root 1-0-1-0.

CONTENDERS

Australian Open is set to begin from Monday. Here's a look at a few players who have the potential to corner glory in Melbourne...

MEN'S SINGLES

NOVAK DJOKOVIC (SRB)

The World No 1 from Serbia has won a record eight times in Melbourne and is unbeaten on the famous blue courts since his shock last-16 defeat to South Korea's Hyeon Chung in 2018.

RAFAEL NADAL (ESP)

The Spaniard, who has had back issues since arriving in Australia, has often laboured in vain in Melbourne, winning just once in 2009.

DOMINIC THIEM (AUT)

Thiem was a narrow loser to Djokovic in the last Melbourne final, but this year he arrives as a Grand Slam champion for the first time after his breakthrough win at the US Open.

ALEXANDER ZVEREV (GER)

Reaching a first Grand Slam final at the US Open was a big step forward, but the German will have a bigger prize in his sights. He's had off the court issues recently and a good run here could act as a balm.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

NAOMI OSAKA (JPN)

Picked up her third Grand Slam at the 2020 US Open and won widespread praise for her passionate support of the Black Lives Matters movement.

ASH BARTY (AUS)

Despite hardly swinging a racquet for the best part of a coronavirus-ravaged year, World No 1 Barty still managed to make sporting headlines in 2020.

SOFIA KENIN (USA)

Kenin was voted 2020 WTA Player of the Year. Small in stature but big on fighting spirit, Kenin edged Barty in the semis last year, before going on to capture her first Major.

SERENA WILLIAMS (USA)

Since 2017 the question has been the same: can Williams pull level with Margaret Court as a 24-time Major champ? But time is against the US star who will turn 40 in seven months' time.

ANKITA SET FOR MAJOR BOW

Ankita Raina was hoping for a main draw appearance until the last minute in the women's singles but she couldn't make the cut. However, she'll be part of the doubles experience. Ankita along with partner Mihaela Buzărnescu of Romania will be in action of Feb 10. This will be Ankita's first Major appearance.

SELECT MATCHES (DAY 1) A Pavlyuchenkova (RUS) vs Osaka (JPNx3) | 5:30 am; L Siegemund (GER) vs S Williams (USA x10) | 6:45 am*; L Cabrera (AUS) vs S Halep (ROM x2) | 1:30 pm*. Men: D Thiem (AUT x3) vs M Kukushkin (KAZ) | 8 am*; Grigor Dimitrov (BUL x18) vs Marin Cilic (CRO) | 8:45 am*; M Giron (USA) vs A Zverev (GER x6) | 9 am*; N Djokovic (SRB x1) vs J Chardy (FRA) | 2:45 pm*.
***Estimated time | Live on Sony Sports Pictures Networks**

Mayers enters history books

Debutant Kyle Mayers hit an unbeaten 210 to inspire West Indies to a miraculous victory over hosts Bangladesh with just balls left on final day of the first Test on Sunday. A look at few records rewritten in Chattogram...

6 With an unbeaten 210, Kyle Mayers became 6th batsman to score a double ton in his debut Test.

2 It is second-highest score in a successful fourth-innings Test chase. (G Greenidge's 214 n.o vs England in 1984) is the best.)

5 This is also the fifth highest chase in Tests and second highest for the Windies.

CHASING GLORY

1 By scoring 395 in their second innings, West Indies pulled off the highest successful chase in Tests in Asia. Sri Lanka's chase of 391 vs Zimbabwe in Colombo (2017) was the previous best.

It's a great feeling to be playing Test cricket. Then to go on and score a century, and then to make it a double, and then going on to win this Test. A guy making his debut and making a double should inspire all youngsters to work hard and reach this level.

Kyle Mayers, WI batsman

Brief scores Bangladesh 430 & 223/8d lost to West Indies 259 & 395/7 (Mayers 210 n.o, Bonner 86; Miraz 4/113).

Kane gives Tottenham much-needed victory

AFP @London

HARRY Kane's return from injury helped ease the mounting pressure on Tottenham boss Jose Mourinho as the England captain opened the scoring in a 2-0 win over West Brom, while Leicester were held 0-0 at Wolves on Sunday. Spurs had lost their previous three Premier League games to fall off the pace in the battle for a top-four finish.

But with Kane reunited with Son Heung-min after missing the last two games through an ankle injury, both of Tottenham's talismen were on target to push Sam Allardyce's Baggies ever closer to the drop.

Mourinho's men had not even scored in defeats to Brighton and Chelsea in the past week, but, after a goalless first-half, Kane showed what they had been missing with a cool finish to move level with Bobby Smith as Spurs' second top goalscorer of all-time with 208 goals.

Four minutes later it was 2-0 as Son was sprung clear by Lucas Moura on the counter-attack and his shot had too much power for Sam Johnstone.

On Saturday, Manchester United missed out on a share of top spot after twice throwing away a lead in a 3-3 draw with Everton.

United looked set to move level on points with leaders Manchester City until Dominic Calvert-Lewin snatched a point for Everton in the 95th minute at Old Trafford.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's men continued on their goalscoring form from a 9-0 thrashing of Southampton in midweek as Edinson Cavani's header and a sumptuous lobbed strike from Bruno Fernandes gave them a 2-0 half-time lead.

But the defensive problems that have blighted United's chances of a first league title in eight years were exploited by Carlo Ancelotti's men after half-time. Two goals in seven minutes from Abdoulaye Doucoure and James Rodriguez brought Everton level.

EXPRESS READ

Overage walker in natl athletics meet

GUWAHATI: Haryana race walker Paramdeep Mor was on Sunday stripped off his silver medal after he was found to be overage in the national junior athletics meet. Mor won silver in the 10km race walk event in the boys' U-20 category with a time of 41:19.87 but was later found to be overage. "Paramdeep Mor was found over-aged during medical/bone test and so his silver medal was taken back," an AFI official reportedly said.

East Bengal pull off big victory

VASCO: SC East Bengal tasted victory for the first time in almost a month's time with Jamshedpur FC falling victims to a 2-1 win in the ISL at the Fatorda Stadium, here. East Bengal jumped to 9th on the table with 16 points, Jamshedpur FC's hopes of making the ISL playoffs were dealt with another blow, leaving them 7th, four points behind the playoff places. Goals from Matti Steinmann (6') and Anthony Pilkington (68') secured the victory.

Jehan wins Rd 3, moves to 2nd spot

ABU DHABI: Indian racer Jehan Daruvala ended round 3 of the Formula 3 Asian Championship with an emphatic win from pole position, pushing himself up to the second spot in the points table. Each racer is allowed to use two sets of tyres per weekend. Jehan had kept aside his fresh set of tyres for the last race of the weekend. Guanyu Zhou from China was expected to be on a similar strategy, starting second. Jehan, driving for Mumbai Falcons, had an excellent start.

'Akhtar was loved by all in tennis circle'

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

FORMER India Davis Cup coach and player Akhtar Ali passed away in Kolkata on Sunday after a brief illness. Akhtar, father of India's current Davis Cup coach Zeeshan Ali, was 83.

Akhtar, whose coaching style emphasised on playing aggressive serve and volley game, shaped many careers in Indian tennis. Several players including Amritraj brothers — Vijay and Anand — and Leander Paes were benefitted from his tutelage. He played eight Davis Cup ties between 1958 and 1964 and also captained and coached the Indian team.

Tennis legend and former India Davis Cup captain Ramanathan Krishnan expressed sorrow and offered condolences to the family. "Very sad to hear the passing away of Akhtar. He was a good friend of mine and loved by all in the tennis fraternity. He was ailing for some time and passed away today. I convey my condolences to his family. It is a big loss for the tennis fraternity," said Krishnan.

Recalling his playing days, Krishnan said Akhtar was a popular figure. "During my playing days, Akhtar was very popular not only in India but throughout the world where ever India played. He was a jovial person," complimented Krishnan.

Vijay Amritraj too had a word of praise for Akhtar. "Akhtar Ali was terrific as a coach both when I was a junior as well as coach of our Davis Cup team. Always pushed hard and kept the team relaxed. He did great service to Indian tennis. RIP dear Akhtar. Sincere condolences to Zeeshan and his lovely family," tweeted Vijay.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Of challenges & contingency plans

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @Chennai

THERE are days when Craig Tiley wakes up feeling anxious. With the coronavirus pandemic bringing uncertainty to all sporting events, the Australian Open CEO just isn't sure what new challenge he will have to face minutes after waking up. In an interview to select media houses, Tiley also spoke about the changes in prize money, contingency plans in place if there is another episode involving a positive case and why they felt it was worth it to conduct the 2021 edition at a loss to keep the music going. Excerpts:

We had a day's disruption after a positive case. Are there any contingency plans in place if there is a repeat?

The players and their entourages have been in Melbourne now for a little over three weeks. There are another two weeks of Australian Open to go. With everything that happens in these circumstances, we have contingency plans in place. After 14 days of quarantine, everyone tested negative after 15 continuous PCR tests.

Oz Open CEO Craig Tiley

Unfortunately, we had one incident on Thursday when players staying at one particular hotel had to go and get retested. But they were very good and over 500 players got tested and we were back up and running.

How did you overcome the challenges?

We have had many different plans leading into this event and there have been many people who believed it would not happen. Also even the Australian community, the uncertainty about coming out and watching the tennis. We have divided the 2.5 km in length site into three zones. Each fan will be allowed into a zone and we have a system of contact tracing in the event someone is positive. We are not expecting any positive cases during the course of the next two weeks. We do expect to have between 25 and 50% of the fans we had in 2020. We had 8,30,000 people go through the gate. So we hope to have half of that. That's what we are allowed by the government.

Were there discussions about moving the Aussie Open to the middle-east?

There is a cap on the number of people who can visit Australia. Having the men's qualifying in Dubai and women's in Doha, we were greatly appreciative of our friends there. It was a major event, $8 mn for 128 men and 128 women. But the Australian Open will always be in Melbourne, we have the venue here. But bringing everyone to Melbourne would be a difficult task. We didn't expect any abandonment of the Open.

Full interview: newindianexpress.com

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INVITATION FOR PARTICIPATION
JNPT, invites "ON-LINE" tenders from reputed and experienced firms who fulfil the "Technical and Financial Capacity" stipulated in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document for the work of **"Allotment of Land to Operator Cum Developer on Lease Basis (30 yr) for Development of Dry Port at Jalna, Maharashtra Through E-Tender Cum E- Auction"**. The tender documents can be downloaded from **www.jnport.gov.in** or **http://eprocure.gov.in** Last date for ON-LINE submission of proposal is **25/03/2021 up to 1500 hrs.** For more details, contact the undersigned at **Ph:** +91-22-27244156 or **email:** cmppd@jnport.gov.in
Chief Manager (PP&DD)

Marketing Communication and Advertising Limited
(A Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
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No. MCA/EOI/BA/e-portal/Event-19 & Print-20/2020-21 Dated : 08.02.2021
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MC&A Ltd., invites EoI as per KTPP Act, 1999 through e-procurement portal from interested vendors/agencies/firms for Empanelment as Business Associates for providing services for **(1) Event and Other Media (2) Printing and other Print Related Services.** Those interested may download the documents from e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for submission of EoI : **19.02.2021 up to 6.00 p.m.** The Management has the right to accept or reject any or all the EoI without assigning any reasons thereon.
Sd/- Managing Director
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SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-Procurement Mode Only)
No: **MESCOM/SEE(P)/EE(W)/AEE(W)/2020-21/13142** Date: 06-02-2021
MESCOM invites short term tender for the work of **"Conversion of existing HT and LT Overhead Distribution network into Underground Cable System in MRS F-2 & MRS F-4 Feeder of Unit-2, City Sub-division of Shivamogga Division on Total Turnkey Basis"** vide bid enquiry number MESCOM/ 2020-21/ UC/WORK_INDENT1636.
The interested eligible bidders may log on to www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 09-02-2021.
Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.)
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TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Mode Only)
Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites tender against this office for **"Conducting 110kV lines survey using modern survey techniques for lines in the Tr.(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Habballi."**
The detailed notification regarding the works called through the **'e-Procurement'** mode can be obtained by logging onto e-Procurement's website **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 08.02.2021.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.
Sd/- **Superintending Engineer (Ele.), Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Vidyuthnagar, Hubballi-24. Ph: 0836-2203094**

MOTHER DAIRY
(A Unit of: Karnataka Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd)
GKVK POST, YELAHANKA, BANGALORE-560065. Tele.No: 080-22179084.
Fax: 080-28462652 e-mail: enggpur@motherdairykmf.in
TECHNICAL CUM COMMERCIAL TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENTS THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
TENDER NOTIFICATION
SECTION 1. INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)
Mother Dairy, Bangalore invites tenders from manufacturers / dealers / eligible tenderers for supply/Service of the following Equipments.

Sl No	Details of Equipments	Qty
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-90/2020-21/CALL-2		
1	Supply, Installation & commissioning of 125KVA capacity Power generator for Bio-gas at ETP Section	01 Set
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-95/2020-21		
2	Fabrication, Supply & Installation of G.I. chain link type Bird proofing at milk reception dock	01 Lot

1) Tenderers are advised to note the qualification criteria specified in Section VII to qualify for award of the contract. **2)** Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website. Interested tenderers may obtain further information at the same address. Mother Dairy will not be held responsible for the website problems if any, last date submission or non-receipt of the same. **3)** Tenderer should pay the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), and tender processing fee, which shall be Paid online through e – Procurement Portal. **4)** Other details can be seen in the tender documents.
Date of commencement of Tender Download: **10-02-2021** Pre bid meeting at Mother dairy, date & time: **24-02-2021 at 11:00 am** Last date for submission of Tender on or before **12-03-2021 upto 17.00 hrs.** Date of opening of Technical Tender: on **15-03-2021 at 11.00am**
For MOTHER DAIRY
Sd/- DIRECTOR

Shri. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

ATMA NIRBHAR MADHYA PRADESH ROADMAP 2023

Shri. Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief minister, Madhya pradesh

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE • GOOD GOVERNANCE • HEALTH AND EDUCATION • ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

AtmaN MP@23 TO UNLOCK GROWTH

Shivraj Singh Chouhan's govt in MP focusing on health, infrastructure, e-Governance, and job creation to ensure sustainable development with equitable opportunities

ENDOWED with rich resources, both natural and human, the growth potential in Madhya Pradesh is enormous. To quickly unlock the potential and put development on the fast track, the Madhya Pradesh government under Shivraj Singh Chouhan has formulated a whole basket of schemes for all sections of the society and all sectors of the economy.

With the youth power of the state getting vocal for opportunities, the time is ripe to tap the local avenues to meet the demand. It is with this vision that the state government has launched AtmaN MP@23, inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Atma Nirbhar Bharat and Vocal for Local call. AtmaN is an acronym for Aspiration, Transformation, Mission, Action, and Neeti.

The Atma Nirbhar (self-sufficient) roadmap created for Madhya Pradesh touches upon the various facets necessary for empowering an already robust local economy by 2023. The goal is to not only meet the demands of the people of the state but also to contribute to the national economy by becoming a trailblazer of sustainable growth while providing equitable opportunities.

The Chouhan government has taken a leaf out of the Prime Minister's book on maximum governance with minimum government to ensure exemplary administration right from the grassroots to the shoots. The first step towards good governance involves clamping down on redtapism to ensure that various new measures that are initiated seamlessly fit in with minimum hindrance. Good governance would ensure accountability and transparency when infrastructure projects come up for appraisal and approval. It is pivotal to ensuring no project gets the nod without due diligence, and the approved schemes are executed in a timely manner.

When political will and adequate infrastructure intertwine, the investment tap starts flowing freely. If investers get a level playing field and are assured of maximum support, the economy can be expected to start booming. A robust economy is dependent on a healthy population. It is with this aim that the government has committed itself to making premium healthcare accessible to all. It is with this end in sight that the policymakers have accorded pride of place to health in the vision document.

When all these cogs — Good Governance, Infrastructure and Health — fall into place, the natural outcome of their seamless implementation will be employment opportunities. The Chouhan government envisages a Madhya Pradesh that would emerge as the exemplar of cultivating a robust economy by empowering the citizens to be its growth drivers. Special emphasis is laid on promoting indigenous and small scale industries to transform them into hubs catering to the global market.

On the Good Governance front, Madhya Pradesh has envisaged a slew of measures, which include but are not limited to, ensuring timely delivery of services through a state-of-the-art digital apparatus. A timeline of three months has been set to ensure that all departments concerned brainstorm on the various aspects of the application and devise a mechanism that delivers services seamlessly (see graphics).

The importance of a healthy population willing to utilise opportunities is significant. That is why MP aims to upgrade many hospitals and schools

As regards roads, a 60-month deadline has been set to fasttrack Chambal Progress Way and Narmada Expressway. Besides, the government is committed to increasing revenue by better planning 200 roads, all the while automating toll plazas and making them FASTag enabled under the Centre's supervision. Madhya Pradesh also intends to secure ₹500 crore off-budget loans to meet exigencies. This entire infrastructure would be brought under the Road Assets Management System to keep a continuous tab on their utility and condition.

The Chauhan government also plans to tap its vast tourism potential. As part of this, Buffer Me Safar scheme has been envisaged to augment monsoon tourism. Besides creating theme-based circuits, the government plans to add value to the existing facilities, all the while upskilling 20,000 youth to eke out a living in these destinations. Housing and urban development, too, figures high in the government's scheme of things for Vision 2023. The government plans to construct 3 lakh housing units across 378 cities by 2023. The state has embarked on an ambitious plan to offer 100 per cent drinking water to all villages by 2024.

INFRASTRUCTURE

ROAD

60 Months TO FASTTRACK CHAMBAL PROGRESS WAY, NARMADA EXPRESSWAY

24 MONTHS to constitute Road Assets Management System to assess roads' utility and condition

A high-level committee to look into cost escalation and timely delivery of road contracts

12 Months to better plan roads and increase revenue. 200 roads earmarked

6 MONTHS to automate toll plazas and implement FASTag

₹500 cr Loan as off-budget item

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

- Monsoon tourism through Buffer Me Safar
- Develop two Tiger Safaris
- Develop theme-based circuits in Amarkantak, Tirthankar, Omkar
- Skill development to 20,000 youth living in tourist destinations

TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

- Multi-modal logistics hub to transform MP into Storage and Logistics Hub of the nation by 2024
- Develop digital platforms for end-to-end integration of Logistics Operation
- Monetise, Modernise and Upgrade existing assets

URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING

Food security and night shelters

- Improving existing 118 night shelters
- Expanding Deendayal Rasoi Yojana to 100 from 56 by March 2021
- 6 new night shelters by March 2022
- 12 new night shelters by March 2023
- 16 new night shelters by December 2023

Livelihood

EXPANSION OF DAY-NULM TO 378 CITIES FROM 120 BY MARCH 2021

Linking **1.50 LAKH** families with SHGs by March 2023

Working capital loans **5 LAKH** vendors and developing vending areas

Housing for urban poor

3 LAKH housing units across 378 cities by December 2023

Skill development and self employment

7 Incubation centres in seven cities

1 Lakh unemployed youth to get skill upgrade

WATER

- Going beyond the national average of 26 per cent in supplying piped water to rural areas; MP's average is 17%
- 100 per cent coverage in Niwari and Burhanpur districts
- Functional Household Tap Connection to 26 lakh in 2020
- 100 per cent drinking water availability in all villages by 2024
- Train 50,000 plumbers in three years

₹30,000 cr Worth works to be awarded in one year by NVDA and WRD

15,000 cr Off-budget loan from NBPCL to complete Narmada project in three years

4,000 cr Advance to be arranged to complete pending projects in one year

ENERGY

3,000 cr Investment to set up a floating solar power plant in Omkareshwar Dam to generate 600MW

₹18,000 crore Earmarked to set up 4,500MW solar plants in five districts

35 EHV substations for ₹2,000 crore

₹4,000 cr For Green Energy Corridor in 1 year

45,000 Solar pumps to be installed by 2023

GOVERNANCE

Develop intelligent bots to minimise human intervention

- Make list of portals to offer bots
- Order to integrate all portals with bots
- Creating technical structures
- Developing Application Programming Interfaces

Single Citizen Database

- September 2021 Connected database of different departments for easy accessibility
- 3 Months to create a list of citizen-related information through concerted departmental action
- 3 Months to establish SOPs for regular update of data through identified nodal
- 3 Months to create technical database for all actionable points
- 3 Months to create standard format for all data reporting
- September 2021: Database goes live; database subject to continuous feedback-based updates

Single portal for service delivery

- Making a list of portals to ascertain the delivery of online services
- Order departments to migrate/integrate different applications
- Envisaging and preparing technical structure of application based on needs
- Starting process engineering to ascertain the requirements
- Creating list of requirements for Software Requirement Specification
- Capacity building for departments; realigning with new platforms; addressing legacy processes

Digital verification of documents

9 Months time for departments to list out documents required

3 Months time to issue order to collect documents online

eDak sewa in Vallabh Bhawan

September '21 Deadline to implement e-Office and centralised Dak sewa

CM helpline for CM care @ MP

- Identify new services to be added to PSM
- Notify services included in PSM for online delivery
- Go live by September 2021

HEALTH & EDUCATION

- Extending Ayushman Bharat to all districts by 2021
- Upgrade of associated colleges as per MCI norms by 2021-end
- Strengthening Teacher Training Institutes by 2023
- School education and technical education department collaboration for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)
- Courses on critical thinking based on GoI approval
- Public-Private Partnership based diagnostic labs across all district hospitals

35% 35% Increase in girl enrolment ratio at engineering colleges by December 2021

1,600 State-of-the-art delivery centres by Dec 2022

55 LAKH Immunisation of under-five age children by 2023

10,000 Resource rich schools by 2024

1,200 PHCs to get telemedicine and ICT facilities

INDUSTRY 4.0 Courses on IoT based on consultations with industries

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

75,000 Hectares of fallow ravine to be developed for cultivation in one year

BHOPAL To get Global Skill Park to train 6,000 youth every year

Soil Health Cards for **100%** farmers

- Land Pooling Policy to provide suitable land for industries
- Mohasa Babai Industrial Area to sport world class pharma infra
- Analysing imports and devising ways to produce them locally
- Dedicated placement cells for ITI grads

- Policy on seed research to augment productivity
- Skill upgrade of farmers to be expedited
- PACS to be developed as Common Facility Centres for easy credit

FERTILITY MAPPING OF ALL FARMLANDS

- Augmenting storage and warehouse capacity
- Agriculture and horticulture value addition to be promoted
- Identifying one product per district for promotion and export

TWENTY Green house clusters to be developed

3 Inland container depots to be created

4 Industrial corridors to get early bird projects

2 SEZs to promote industrialisation, jobs

D-19059

MADHYA PRADESH ON THE PATH OF SELF - RELIANCE

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08.02.2021
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Birth anniversary

American film actor James Byron Dean was born on this day in 1931 at Marion, Indiana, to Winton and Mildred

STAGE SUCCESS

After appearing as *Malcolm* in the school's production of Macbeth, Dean dropped out of UCLA. His career picked up in 1950s and he did a few televison shows

MOVIES

Of the three films he starred in, James Dean was nominated for two Academy Awards, for his performances in *East of Eden* and *Giant*

LOVE FOR RACING

James Dean's passion for racing was legendary. Royal Enfield 500cc, '39 Chevy, Czech 125 (CZ) were a few from his prized possessions

Aditi Prabhudeva to be paired with Prajwal

PG 4

After staying low-key for months, singer Hariharan is back at the forefront with his song *Dekha Hain*, for which he has collaborated with Grammy-winning musician Ricky Kej

'IT'S A CALL FOR US TO WAKE UP'

MONIKA MONALISA

If you're one of those still trying to get the feel and tune of *Tu Hi Re* from *Bombay* right, you're not alone. The magic that Hariharn wove into the song, a hit in the '95 movie, remains hard to match. The singer, who has been keeping low-key off late, is back to the forefront. This time, along with Ricky Kej for their new song, *Dekha Hain*.

Explaining the song, the 65-year-old singer explains that it is about the state of the earth and a person's utopic vision. "But in the visuals, you will see it's nothing like what you dream of, and how you are mistreating nature. It's a call for us to wake up. Otherwise, the beautiful work is going to leave us," says the two-time National Award-winning singer. Having known Kej for many years, Hariharan is impressed with the outcome. "His compositions are very thoughtful and he has done very well for himself," he adds.

Known for bringing in a perfect fusion of Indian ragas and Western style, Hariharan has been considered ahead of his time. Artistes, he believes, should have a style of their own, rather than follow a trend. "Style is timeless. Basically, how you communicate through your art is important, it should not be affected by an appeal. You should be just an artiste and have a lot of conviction to love yourself, your art and have confidence in yourself," says one half of the '90s popular fusion band, Colonial Cousins, also hinting that the boys' band featuring him and Leslee Lewis will be back soon once the pandemic settles down.

It was a small treat for their fans when they saw the duo perform at a few digital concerts during the lockdown. Though Hariharan admits that he can never get used to digital concerts, as it felt more of a "televised show", he believes that music has surely played an important role in spreading positive energy during these tough times.

"When you see a beautiful sunset, why do you react to it in a positive way? Because those things have positive energy. The same is with sound... it energises the person listening to it even if they don't know music," explains Hariharan. During the pandemic, the world lost many legends, including Ustaad Ghulam Mustafa Khan, who happened to be his guru. "It was a personal loss. I have been his shagird since I was 17 years old. It's a huge loss not just for me for the world," he says.

Hariharan is now looking at a busy 2021 calendar. He is currently in Kolkata, shooting for a music album with percussionist Bickram Ghosh. He will soon be seen in the debut album of his elder son, Akshay Hariharan. At the same time, he is also working on an album of ghazals.

> Style is timeless. Basically, how you communicate through your art is important, it should not be affected by an appeal. You should be just an artiste and have a lot of conviction to love yourself, your art and have confidence in yourself
>
> Hariharan, singer

Delve deep into the treasure chest of 8,000 species of trees that Cubbon Park holds, with nature walks held by this citizen group

Participants in the walk got a first-hand idea of the history of trees from naturalist Kavya Chandra (extreme left) | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

Canopy connect

SANATH PRASAD

As we take a stroll down the lanes in Cubbon Park, we are surrounded by giant trees and several species of plants all over. But these trees and plants have a history and a story to tell that many of us may be unaware of. For example, the banyan tree transfers water and minerals to the rest of the trees to grow. The white silk cotton tree is loved by honeybees who form clusters at the highest point of the tree. These are just some of the nuggets we pick up on the two-hour walk on Saturday morning.

Heritage Beku, a citizen initiative, along with the department of horticulture, is organising a series of events focussing on conserving Bengaluru's natural and cultural heritage, with the heritage walk being one of them. Kavya Chandra, a naturist, who moderated the walk, feels it is important that people understand the trees in depth and the value they add to our lives. "Everyone is a naturist in their own sense and we are bridging the gap with the right form of awareness," she said, adding that the Banyan tree is home to 100 different species of birds and also a shelter for cobras. "This is actually a sign of a clean ecosystem," added Chandra.

> Everyone is a naturist in their own sense and we are bridging the gap with the right form of awareness
>
> Kavya Chandra, moderator of walk

She also stressed the significance of the eucalyptus tree which is known for its medicinal values with healing components that are generally found in pain balms. "The eucalyptus tree is a major cause of groundwater depletion. The tree always undergoes termite attacks and the leaves of the tree are harmful to the animals," added Chandra.

For Arvind K, who participated in the nature walk, it was essential to know about the ecosystem around us. "More importantly, the younger generation should also be aware of these details since they are the conservators of tomorrow," he said. It wasn't until this walk that Vaibhav Dewan delved into the details of the trees. "I have been living with trees all my life. But I did not know the details and the depth of qualities of the trees," he added.

The heritage walk aims to bring stories of the unsung trees in Cubbon Park and the value they add to the sustenance of the ecosystem. "Cubbon Park is public property. People have to adopt and maintain this ecosystem for sustainable living. Let us make our city pollution-free and preserve the heritage," said RK Kataria, principal secretary, horticulture department.

The upcoming events that will be held are a heritage walk by Suresh Jayaram; a park photography contest 'Picture Parking'; and a memory map initiative.

For more details, visit heritagebeku.com

Green stories

RAIN TREE

Originally from Madagascar, this tree is 100 years old. The curling of the leaves of a raintree generally gives an indication of when it rains. The flowering period of the tree is in March and the fruits are edible. Interestingly, the branches do not touch each other, socially-distancing themselves from each other which allows sunlight to go right inside.

WHITE SILK COTTON TREE

This tree is almost 60 years old. The cotton pops out of the bud during summer, which is often used in the manufacturing of soft toys. The honeybees generally form a cluster here because of the altitude of the tree. It stores water beneath the ground and does not allow the water to run out.

EUCALYPTUS TREE

This tree is a boon and a bane for the ecosystem. Eucalyptus is known for its medicinal values, but on the other hand, the nature of the eucalyptus tree is a major concern for groundwater depletion. The tree frequently undergoes termite attacks and its leaves are harmful to animals.

AFRICAN TULIP TREE

This 100-year-old tree at Cubbon Park has roots that are stronger, thereby holding the water together and preventing soil erosion. It is not advisable to grow the tree near residences because of its overarching branches.

CITY READ

BU calls for applications

Application are invited for vacant seats for admission to MBA day or evening programme at Canara Bank School of Management Studies, J B Campus, Bangalore University. To download the application form, visit the BU website. The last date of submission of filled applications is Feb. 15. For further details, contact 886168616/9741547555

Pop-up market on Feb 13, 14

An artisanal pop-up market for everything handmade is being held on Feb. 13 and 14, at Studio Orenda, Lakeview Farm Lawns, Whitefield. The shopping section includes an eclectic mix of apparels, jewellery (both traditional, contemporary, boho and ceramic), paper products, gift boxes and home decor. The eats and treats section also includes vegan desserts.

Worldly WISE

Got a life lesson to share? Check out this project that is curating stories from world over

SIMRAN AHUJA

Artwork made by Nori Norbhu for a life lesson shared by someone from Cyprus

Take pride in your culture. Ignore what everyone else says, writes Orgil from Mongolia. Feza Nashagiro from Democratic Republic of the Congo, on the other hand, offers two words of advice: Look around. Chandri from India offers her own learning: It is important to not feel guilty for my own decisions. Welcome to World Wisdom Map, a website and project that documents the life lessons and stories of people from each of the 195 countries in the world. "This consciousness project combines visual and wisdom anthropology that exists in the world and sparks awareness about the diversity of lifestyles, as well as the coping mechanism that people employ to create a meaningful life," says **Deepak Ramola**, who conceptualised the idea and leads it as a project director. The 29-year-old, who is also the founder and artistic director, Project Fuel, adds, "Laced with death tolls due to the coronavirus, we were looking at the world through the lens of loss. We wanted to feel more hopeful ourselves and share that resource with the world which came from learnings of commoners."

The project, which Ramola terms a 'New Year's gift to the world' since it was launched towards the end of 2020, gained the support of Singapore International Foundation and took 11 months to put together. The team had to plan personal and public outreaches through volunteers, and social media shout-outs in order to gather their current collection of life lessons. "At large, this formulated in a meaningful collection of learnings from countries that were remote or little more inaccessible than others," says Ramola.

Open to everyone, the lessons shared can be anything, as long as it is an authentic story. The goal, he adds, is to reach a million lessons by 2022. "We have a life lesson from a six-year-old that says, 'When you are done using the bike learn where the brakes are' to a 78-year-old offering the advice, 'Take life by the scruff of the neck and do your best with what it throws at you. It is often the things we don't try in life that disappoint us more than the things we try that fail'," shares Ramola.

Besides the lessons, the project website also includes education modules, art and data narratives. "In collaboration with 10 South-East Asian artists and over 50 students from five Indian and Singaporean institutions, artworks have been created inspired by the life lessons," he says.

This includes works created by Bengaluru-based Nori Norbhu. The illustrator created three artworks based on lessons that came in from countries like Cyprus (about seeing the world differently when one lies down on grass), Nepal (about a grandmother who was introduced to a new world once her granddaughter taught her how to read) and Lebanon (suffering is universal). Norbhu spent a week interpreting each of these life lessons in a visual way. "We may not speak the same language but at the end of the day, we all go through similar things," she says.

Details available on worldwisdommap.com

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

DANCE CLASS

Sign up for contemporary dance classes in Kalaripayattu, Kathak, Bharatanatyam, Bollywood, Street Flow and Hip Hop. The studio classes will be held on weekdays.

When: Feb 10 onwards, 7:30 pm
Where: Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts, Wilson Garden
Details: attakkalari.org

MUSICAL EVENT

A musical event for a cause featuring singer Ananya Bhat Achari. It is a fundraiser event hosted by the Rotary club of Bangalore, South for animal welfare.

When: Feb 13, 5pm
Where: Guhantara Resort, Kanakapura Main Road
Details: 9880171819

TAP YOUR FEET

Get ready to sway like Cuban Salsa stars with Minoti Ramachandra and Manoj Kumar's Salsa workshop. Fee: Rs 1875 for 4 classes/ per month &Rs 3500 for 8 classes/ 2 months

When: Feb 12 onwards, 6:30 pm **Where:** Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar **Details:** 9980944523

CLICK AWAY

An elaborate package of computer programming, 3D modeling, mobile and web development for kids is just a click away. The five-day course involves one hour sessions every day. **When:** Feb 8 onwards, 10 am **Where:** Zoom **Details:** bookmyshow.com

LEARN KALARI WITHIN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME THROUGH WEEKEND CLASSES BY ATTAKKALARI CONNECT. WHERE: ZOOM WHEN: FEB 13 ONWARDS DETAILS: BOOKMYSHOW.COM

HIP HOP

Learn Hip Hop dance with the Motley Dance Company. This fun class will introduce you to the interesting Hip Hop culture and train you with the right technique.
Where: Lahe Lahe , Indiranagar **When:** Feb 12 onwards
Details: 9886294444

DO IT YOURSELF

Get hands-on training in Adobe Photoshop with Master Photoshop by Emplilhi. Courses that will be covered during the sessions are- introduction to photoshop tools, layers, selections, and exciting assignments. **When:** Feb 8 onwards, 5pm **Where:** Zoom **Details:** bookmyshow.com

WORDLY WISE

Want to excel in writing? Get an opportunity with Ruskin Bond's exclusive online writing class and learn the art of good writing from the legend himself. The duration for each class varies from 2.5 to 5 hours. **When:** Feb 8 onwards, 7pm **Where:** Zoom **Details:** bookmyshow.com

TUNE IN

It is never too late to say sorry. Join this event to experience 'I am Sorry tunes', a music genre to express yourself with your loved ones **When:** Feb 8 onwards, 10 am **Where:** Online
Details: bookmyshow.com

E-LEARNING

Enroll your kids with an interesting line up of pre-school training. Enhance your child's learning ability with Montessori and traditional methods of teaching with Little Wonders **When:** Feb 8 onwards, 4pm **Where:** Zoom
Details: bookmyshow.com

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

COCCINIA CHUTNEY

INGREDIENTS

- **Coccinia** : 1 cup, chopped
- **Urad dal:** 1 tbsp
- **Dry red chillies:** 2 or 3
- **Peppercorns:** 1/4 tsp
- **Tamarind:** a small piece
- **Cooking oil:** 1 tbsp
- **Sesame seeds** or **mustard seeds** for garnish
- **Salt**

METHOD

- Heat a little oil in a pan. Fry urad dal, chillies and pepper till the dal turns golden brown. Remove from pan and keep aside.
- Add remaining oil to the same pan. Add the chopped coccinia and tamarind. Sprinkle water, cover and cook on low flame till the vegetable is just done.
- Remove from stove, allow to cool.
- Grind everything together with salt, to a slightly coarse paste. Adjust desired consistency with water .
- Garnish (optional) with roasted sesame seeds or spluttered mustard seeds. **—Laxmi Vijaya, Bengaluru**

FIT BIT

SANTOLANASANA

(BALANCING POSE)

In Sanskrit, Santolana means 'Balancing', Asana means 'posture'. It is commonly called the hand plank. This asana can be found in gyms, weight-training sessions, yoga studios and crossfit sessions. It is a full body workout. But, this really builds the arm strength. Practising this asana strengthens the core and the arms. A strong core is essential for a strong back and it uses your bodyweight to sculpt the shoulders and arms. Balancing in this asana helps in toning up too.

STEPS

- First of all, you kneel down on your palms and knees.
- Make sure your palms are exactly in line with shoulders with focus on the elbow.
- Now, inhale and lift knees up bringing your body forward in plank.
- You can now grip the floor with toes and keep the knees straight.
- It is important to keep back straight with wrists, elbows and shoulders in a straight line.
- Your arms should be kept straight right below shoulders.
- Then focus the gaze towards the floor ensuring that it is a foot forward from the arms.
- Now, you can hold this final posture for 1 minute.
- You can practise this up to 5 times for achieving the best results.
- Now, relax in step 1 for releasing the pressure from the back.

BENEFITS

- This asana strengthens the thigh, arms and shoulders.
- It makes the spine and abdominal muscles robust.
- It helps to improve concentration.
- Regular practise of this asana improves balance in the nervous system.
- It also stimulates the Manipura (Solar Plexus) chakra.
- It helps to develop core strength.
- It also helps in strengthening the entire back.
- This asana energises the entire body and instills a feeling of positivity.
- It develops a sense of inner equilibrium and harmony.
- It helps in preparing for asanas such as Bakasana, Chaturanga-Dandasana etc. It also helps in improving the quality and quantity of the push-ups.

LIMITATIONS

- People who are suffering from severe ankle injury, acute carpal tunnel syndrome, should avoid this asana.
- In case of wrist or shoulder injury, must avoid this asana.

– by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

THE REAL CANON

Jon Risinger and co-host Charles Pulliam-Moore together open the gates to everything trending in movies, tv & gaming, offering fresh perspectives on the stories that are defining the canon in real time.
- On Google Podcasts

SMARTLESS

SmartLess with Jason Bateman, Sean Hayes, & Will Arnett is a podcast that connects and unites people from all walks of life to learn about shared experiences through thoughtful dialogue and organic hilarity.
- On Google Podcasts

LIFE KIT

Everyone needs a little help being a human. From sleep to saving money to parenting and more, we talk to the experts to get the best advice out there. Life Kit is here to help you get it together.
- On Apple Podcasts

HIDDEN BRAIN

Shankar Vedantam uses science and storytelling to reveal the unconscious patterns that drive human behavior, shape our choices and direct our relationships.
- On Spotify

NOBODY PANIC

Each week, Stevie Martin and Tessa Coates tackle life's big, small, fun and sometimes scary questions with the help of experts and special guests.
- On Google Podcasts

SERIAL

Serial is an investigative journalism podcast hosted by Sarah Koenig, narrating a nonfiction story over multiple episodes.
- On Google Podcasts

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

PATAKI

Young Surya holds Agni, his father and DGP, responsible for his mother and sister's deaths. Years later, he becomes a corrupt IPS officer and decides to take revenge against his father.
- Cast: Ganesh, Ashish Vidyarthi, Sai Kumar

SAARATHI

Rukmini is forcefully taken hostage by her enemy, Pratap, who wants to marry her. When Raja, her lover and a rickshaw driver by profession, finds out, he sets out for her hometown to rescue her.
- Cast: Darshan, Deepa Sannidhi, Bullet Prakash

ORANGE

Radha loves Prashanth but faces family opposition and leaves home. Meanwhile, Santosh arrives at Radha's house and is welcomed as her boyfriend but later the family is shocked to know his truth.
- Cast: Ganesh, Priya Anand, Avinash

KOVIL

Shaktivel and Angel, who belong to rival villages, fall in love with each other. However, as Angel's father is unhappy with her choice of groom, he forces her to become a nun.
- Cast: T.R. Silambarasan, Sonia Agarwal, Vadivelu

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 QUEST 1 – THE FOOD WE EAT
Our food comes from the store, right? Not exactly. In this adventure we'll explore the origins of what we eat, and learn about the impact our diets have on the environment. We'll see the role bugs play in our food systems. (They pollinate 1/3 of our food and educator Emma Bryce shows us they are actually pretty tasty and high in protein!)

2 THE COIN FLIP CONUNDRUM BY PO-SHEN LOH
When you flip a coin to make a decision, there's an equal chance of getting heads and tails. What if you flipped two coins repeatedly, so that one option would win as soon as two heads showed up in a row on that coin, and one option would win as soon as heads was immediately followed by tails on the other?

3 HOW TECHNOLOGY CHANGES OUR SENSE OF RIGHT AND WRONG BY JUAN ENRIQUEZ
In this talk, futurist Juan Enriquez offers a historical outlook on what humanity once deemed acceptable – from human sacrifice and public executions to slavery and eating meat – and makes a case that exponential advances in technology leads to more ethical behavior.

4 TIKTOK, INSTAGRAM, SNAPCHAT – AND THE RISE OF BITE-SIZED CONTENT BY QIUQUING TAI
Short videos have transformed how we work, communicate and learn. Digital strategist Qiuqing Tai explores the explosive rise of bite-sized content and forecasts its promise as an economic and social force.

5 PAY OFF YOUR CREDIT CARDS FASTER WITH THESE 4 EASY CHANGES BY WENDY DE LA ROSA
Whether you want to pay off credit card debt or just prevent yourself from accruing big balances, there are some simple steps you can take to help achieve your goal, according to this behavioural scientist.

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

DIA (Kannada)

Dia takes three years to confess her feelings to Rohith but after a terrible accident, she is told he does not survive. Later, when she starts seeing Adi, she finds out that Rohith is still alive.

Cast: Kushi, Pruthvi Ambaar, Deekshith Shetty
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

YAJAMANA (Kannada)

Krishna, the son-in-law of the village head, becomes the biggest enemy of Devi Shetty, a cruel gangster, when Devi decides to plunder the oil resources of the village and ruin villagers' livelihood.

Cast: Darshan Thoogudeep, Rashmika Mandanna, Dhananjaya
- Watch on: Amazon VideoPrime

KETTIYOLLAANU ENTE MAALAKHA (Malayalam)

Sleevachan, a farmer who is uncomfortable around women, gets married to Rincy. On the advice of his friends, he gets drunk one night and rapes her, causing her to leave him.

Cast: Asif Ali, Veena Nandhakumar, Manohari Joy
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

KILOMETERS AND KILOMETERS (Malayalam)

Josemon, a young man from Kerala meets Cathy, an American traveller and offers to show her around but during their trip, they begin to share their different views of life to better understand each other.

Cast: Tovino Thomas, India Jarvis, Joju George
- Watch on: Netflix

KURUTHI KALAM (Tamil)

The show revolves around two rival gangs, who, with a history of violence rule the roost in Chennai. An upright youngster, Vijay (Santhosh Prathap), is pulled into their never-ending power play and has to give up his hopes of becoming a police officer when he resorts to violence.

Cast: Vincent Ashokan, Ashok Kumar Balakrishnan, Santhana Bharathi
- Watch on: Mx Player

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

KATHA SANGAMA (Kannada)

An anthology of seven short films by seven directors as a tribute to the legendary Indian filmmaker Puttanna Kanagal.

Cast: Haripriya, Rishab Shetty, Kishore Kumar G
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

EE NAGARANIKI EMAINDI (Telugu)

The story is based on four childhood friends who go on a trip to Goa. Each have their own dream careers, and collaborate to make a short film.

Cast: Vishwak Sen, Srinivas Volety, Abhinav Gomatam
- Watch on: Netflix

FOREIGN

LUPIN (English)

A retelling of the classic French story about Arsène Lupin, the world-famous gentleman thief and master of disguise.

Cast: Omar Sy, Vincent Londez, Ludivine Sagnier
- Watch on: Netflix

THE PROM (English)

Down-on-their-luck Broadway stars shake up a small Indiana town as they rally behind a teen who wants to go to the prom with her girlfriend.

Cast: Meryl Streep, James Corden, Nicole Kidman
- Watch on: Netflix

SNOWPIERCER (English, series)

Seven years after the world has become a frozen wasteland, the remnants of humanity inhabit a perpetually moving train that circles the globe, where class warfare, social injustice and the politics of survival play out.

Cast: Jennifer Connelly, Daveed Diggs, Mickey Sumner
- Watch on: Netflix

THE WILDS (English, series)

A group of teens must survive after a crash leaves them stranded. There's just one twist to this thrilling drama – these girls did not end up on this island by accident.

Cast: Rachel Griffiths, Sophia Ali, Shannon Berry
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION
Netflix: ₹ 199 per month
Prime Video: ₹ 129 per month
Disney+Hotstar: ₹ 399 per year

PAINTING THE TOWN RED

PAIRED WITH PANACHE
Anuja Pandey

Valentine's Day is the celebration of this ever-warm, surreal feeling that is empowering to you and your lover. Despite thousands of warring ideas, in this new normal the challenge is about coming up with ways to make the day special. Here are some ways to spice the day:

- We managed the pandemic with road trips but what about those for whom wanderlust is a way of life? Virtual trips to exotic locations can fill the void this V-Day. Treat your loved one to travel experiences that give both of you the opportunity to explore the world from your living room. Get warpzoned with a click of a button to the Louvre, the Niagara Falls or to heritage sites. Dive deep into the Great Barrier Reef and feel the adrenaline gush, or move through the busy lanes of Italy and visit museums without the long wait in the queue. The travel industry is invested in creating exclusive sensorial experiences even though borders are closed for globetrotters.
- You could surprise your Valentine by hiring a private band to play music – jazz or Indian classical tunes. Sway to these tunes in a romantic setting which you can create at your own pad with flowers, aroma candles and balloons. The setting could be on your terrace as wind brushes past your hair and musical notes caress your cheeks.
- There's always vintage music to set the tone of the day. The best performers from across the world to set your pulse racing with dance shows in your living room. Go ahead, buy tickets for the lavish burlesque show with live, original music, streaming straight into your home to get you in the mood for Valentine's Day.
- Attend chocolate making workshops online within the confines of your own kitchen. Discover the warm notes of unbridled expressions soaked in the aroma of vanilla or chocolate...
- Sign up for a salsa, jive or waltz workshop. Who knows a swirl or twist could make you slip more in sync with each other.
- Bengaluru has many vineyards just a drive away, so gear up your romance with a perfect brunch setting, some foot stomping of grapes some laughter and falling in love again over a goblet of home grown wines.
- Today, women don't really wait for men to gift them something... With pink dollars going up, a lot of women are pampering their guys too. It's all about doing something for your Valentine rather than expecting to be surprised. Giving is happiness.
- Indulge in activities you both enjoy. It could be as simple as planning a meal, buying grocery together or cooking a meal for ageing parent as you exchange warm moments of nostalgia. We have been seeing that Valentine's Day over the years is becoming more about passionate love and romance, thereby sending out vibes of exclusion to those who are single. Let's be more inclusive since a Valentine could even be a parent, a friend or a sibling.
- The reason we celebrate this day is love and belonging. V-Day, Rose Day, Lover's Day or, even Thanksgiving are reminders that we need to have an attitude of gratitude. Celebrate yourself, your loved ones as you sip on the elixir of life.

I conclude by quoting this:

Princess Anne: *At midnight, I'll turn into a pumpkin and drive away in my glass slipper.*

Joe Bradley: *And that will be the end of the fairytale.*

Every fairytale, every love story has to have an end but the memories are the time we spend with loved ones...

(The writer is a social media influencer)

THE GOOD, bad & ugly

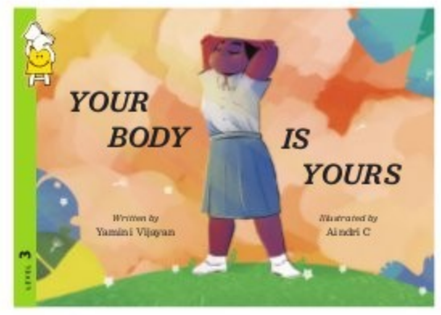
Starting a dialogue with children on touch, consent and right to say no are B'luru-based author Yamini Vijayan and illustrator Aindri C, who try to create awareness on these matters though their new book

MONIKA MONALISA

IN the entire debate of good touch, bad touch and being comfortable with one's body, what's most important and often missed is the right way to educate young minds on these issues. *Your body is Yours* (Pratham Books, ₹50), a recently launched book by writer Yamini Vijayan and illustrator Aindri C, can help parents and teachers in this matter.

Although the idea for a book came from the editorial team of the publication, Vijayan was drawn towards the idea because there's very little written about body awareness for children, especially in the Indian context. "In India, it's still rare to see open and honest conversations about the body between adults and children. When it comes to talking about changes in the body or even something like safe and unsafe touch, there's a deep sense of embarrassment and awkwardness. With our book, we hope to spark more conversations around body positivity, body awareness and consent. Words like penis and vulva shouldn't be said with embarrassment, these are just parts of our body after all," she says, adding that it's extremely crucial for children to understand that in cases of violation, it's never, ever their fault.

For the research of the book, which is now out in English and Kannada, Vijayan widely read on the subject and also spoke to a few people who work in the realm of child safety. But her biggest challenge was in settling on a voice and tone for the book. Though the book has been accepted well by many, Vijayan does agree that she did have initial inhibitions about how it would be perceived. "I must admit that I had concerns when it came to how the book will be received. But only because of the existing culture of silence and shame that surrounds conversations about our bodies. At the same time, I was convinced that for that to change, we need to – as parents and educators – shed our own inhibitions," says Vijayan.



> When it comes to talking about changes in the body or even something like safe and unsafe touch, there's a deep sense of embarrassment and awkwardness
>
> Yamini Vijayan, writer

For a good picture book, it's important that the words and illustrations come together seamlessly, and luckily the collaboration was effortlessly complementary. "Elise Gravel's *Consent Explained to Children* was one of my main inspirations for this project. The premise of *Your Body is Yours* is young people exploring themselves outdoors in nature, being unafraid, relaxed and rested," explains Andri, adding that it is important that information that is being created through literature and communication is not patronising and moralising to a young person. The cover image shows a girl who is enjoying the sun on her. "I came across an observation that many girls end up with a stooped posture because of the experience of being groped in public and shamed for their chests. I wanted the cover image of a girl to be unafraid of scrutiny and harassment," she says.

PLAY ON
Arjun Sukumaran

(Arjun is a gamer, book lover and an all-round renaissance man)

Delving into village green

Peer Sylvester has joined the ranks of one-to-watch game designers in the last couple of years. The Lost Expedition, which I've written about before, is a lovely little card game and, just last year, The King is Dead got a swanky 2nd Edition that's also climbing the rankings fairly rapidly. Lost in the hubbub around the latter's release, however, was news that Mr Sylvester would also be releasing a small-box card game called Village Green, and that's the game we're going to talk about today.

First of all, Village Green has one of the best one-liners I've seen on any board game box — 'a Game of Pretty Gardens and Petty Grudges'. Now that's how you introduce a game! The one-page thematic description in the rulebook is wonderful as well, with a healthy dose of snobbery and rivalry spicing up what is a 'village green of the year' competition. Card games like this don't often have to put much effort into their themes - and indeed, most don't - but this is really the template for how it should be done.

On to the gameplay! In Village Green, you'll be creating a 3x3 tableau of cards that will constitute your village green. These cards will include lawns, trees, ponds, gazebos, fountains and the like. However, none of them (except ponds) are worth any points in themselves — instead, you'll be placing award cards above each column and to the left of each row that will potentially score you points for the features you place in that line. For example, one award might reward you for having a variety of trees in that area while another might give you bonus points for avoiding man-made structures in a different zone. Many awards also penalize you for failing to comply with their strictures, so double-edged swords are everywhere. This wrinkle of being able to essentially choose and customize your personal scoring is a very nice touch, but that's not the cleverest thing about this game.

No, that honour goes to the placement system. You can't just slap down cards in your village green anywhere you like — each card has a flower icon in the top-left corner that can be one of three types (rose, petunia or lily) and one of three colours (red, purple, yellow), and that determines how you're allowed to play it. Every card you play must match all orthogonally adjacent cards by either flower or colour; if you can't satisfy that requirement, you can't play that card there. And it won't take long before you back yourself into some gloriously tricky situations — if you want to play a card to a space adjacent to a red petunia and a yellow rose, then you need either a yellow petunia or a red rose. Maybe you find what you need, but it doesn't work at all for the award you were going for in that row so you might have to start over. Is it worth it? You can't tell, but all you can do is what you can and hope it works out.

Village Green is, quite simply, superb. It's fiendishly clever and immensely satisfying every time you're able to juggle the dual requirements of placement and scoring. It's got much

WHAT'S NEW?

FAIYUM

Given the sort of year 2020 was, it's taken longer than the usual delay to play some of the new releases that came out. If I'd managed to play Faiyum earlier, there is absolutely no doubt that it would've been my favourite game from last year. A marvelous design from the famous Friedemann Friese, this one's a treasure.

HALLERTAU

Another big 2020 release was Hallertau, from design superstar Uwe Rosenberg. Much like Faiyum, it took me some time to try this one but it is excellent as well. I don't know if it can quite displace A Feast for Odin as my favourite Rosenberg, but it's definitely part of that conversation.

MARACAIBO

And finally, I got a chance to play a slightly older release as well. Maracaibo came out in 2019 and topped many best-of-year lists, and now I can say it lives up to the hype. From the mind of Alexander Pfister, this game of privateering around the Caribbean in the 17th Century is marvellous.

So long

Celebrity fortuneteller Sheelaa M Bajaj, who was also a guest in *Bigg Boss Kannada*, has moved bag and baggage to Dubai. Having set up her new office in the desert land, Bajaj is making new beginnings along with her family. "The headquarters are now in Dubai but I've created a franchise wherein people can be associated with my team," says Bajaj. Her page 3 followers sorely miss her, but with digital barriers breaking boundaries, she says she is just a click away.

Staying in the loop: Stocks and Swings

ARE YOU GAME?
Anusha Ganapathi

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

GameStop is a brick-and-mortar retailer of videogames. GameSpot is my corpo contemporary who reviews games. The relevance of the recent events to this column ends with making this distinction. Reader, I am sure you have read the 'Explain like I'm 5' memes to understand how shorting stocks work. I read them too, only to stay social media relevant. But we have more out-of-the-loop souls to aid. Especially those who have not played Spider-man yet. The non-PS4 gamer needs to get a taste of the experience on a more accessible platform.

'Assassin's Creed Syndicate' is my second replay of this year. Now you may have been following my column long enough to know that I will not skip an AC reference if I can make it. But this time, I am being in earnest. AC Syndicate may well be renamed to AC Vindicat(ion) because it lacks the annoying quirks of the more recent games in the franchise. Did you hate the drag of long-distance horse-back travel in Valhalla? Syndicate brings you quicker fast travel loading times, and wheels (horse carriages)! Did the repetition of climbing large churches in Valhalla and statues in Odyssey permit your brain to spiral into existential thoughts? Syndicate gives you: hardcore parkour, and Rope Launcher! Rope launcher works almost as well as Spidey's web shooters during stealth events. Evie Frye can jump down, knock out a well-dressed blighter, and zip back up in a matter of seconds. No one notices.

But it's not just the smooth roof-to-roof swings with magical rope launcher that makes Syndicate a non-supe, historical version of Spider-man. Both games restricted their exploration to a single city – NYC vis a vis Victorian London. The city maps provided the opportunity for depth in missions and to explore location-specific idiosyncrasies. The recentness of the events in Syndicate also allowed for more geographically accurate maps, and building a relatable universe overall. It also did not hurt that Evie could easily overpower her enemies with the variety of combat and weapons options at her disposal (Spider-man had web attacks in comparison), as well as recruits aiding her in the city- wide blighter cleanse.

Syndicate's vindication remains incomplete however, only because Evie and Jacob Frye's characters were not explored independently for us to have sufficient attachment to their stories. I rate the game four out of five throwing knives for stealth, and an extra two hallucination darts for the dizzying parkour.

SMARTADS

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Chandighar 8 Days
Mar 14, Apr 4, 16, May 12, 24
Andaman Islands
5 Days Mar 14, Apr 4
South India with Navagraha
7 Days
Feb 28, Mar 14, Apr 15. 25
Shirdi, Nasik, Kudalasangama
Pandarapura 8 Days
Mar 14, Apr 16, May 8
Anand Vihari
No. 15/2/1, Opp. Tollgate Bus Stop
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Danish Sait's *One Cut Two Cut* gets Samyukta Hornad on board

The directorial debut of Vamsidhar Bhogaraju, made by PRK Productions, comprises an interesting cast, including Prakash Belavadi, Sampath Mythria, Roopa Rayappa and Vineeth Beep Kumar

Samyukta Hornad

Danish Sait

A SHARADHAA

DANISH Sait-starrer *One Cut Two Cut*, directed by Vamsidhar Bhograju, is in the making now, and it has an interesting cast to flaunt. While Danish Sait is playing the popular social media character Gopi on the big screen, Samyukta Hornad has been brought in to play the female lead.

The two are sharing screen space for the first time.

In his previous interview, Danish had told CE that *One Cut Two Cut*, being made by Puneeth Rajkumar's PRK Productions, is a family entertainer, and that Gopi will have a love angle, along with elements of comedy and action. Talking about her latest project, the *Lifeu Ishtene* actor says, "At a time like this, Dan (Danish Sait) has found a way to make everyone happy, and that is his strength. Dan just knows how to find a way and make all the boring mundane things fun, while Vamsi just wants to make people smile and laugh. It will be great for me to also make people smile as part of this journey. It is a very interesting team, and it is not just the three of us but the entire cast and technicians who are part of *One Cut Two Cut*."

Apart from the lead artistes, the makers have also signed senior actor Prakash Belawadi, Sampath Mythria, and Roopa Rayappa along with another popular personality on social media –Vineeth Beep Kumar – as part of the cast. They began filming last week.

According to the director, the presence of Puneeth Rajkumar and his wife Ashwini on the first day of the shoot kept everyone in high spirits. The makers have also finalised DOP Sahith Anand of Do Creative Labs, who will be handling the camera work of the film.

Remakes of *Julia's Eyes* being shot in 4 languages

CE FEATURES

BENGALI star Rituparna Sengupta is currently shooting for *Antardrishti* in Uttarakhand. The film marks the directorial debut of the veteran cinematographer Kabir Lal, and is a revenge thriller. It is a remake of the Spanish thriller *Julia's Eyes* and being shot in four languages — Bengali, Marathi, Tamil and Kannada.

Speaking in between shots, Rituparna said, "The film is a thriller and the story of two sisters. It is a murder mystery in which the younger sister gets killed. The story follows the elder sister's (played by her) journey to find the truth behind the mysterious death. My character is visually challenged. So, it is very interesting to see how she navigates her way to uncover the truth."

The Bengali version features Sean Banerjee and Indrajeet Chakroverthy with Rituparna, while the Marathi version titled *Adrushya* co-stars Manjari Fadnnis. The Tamil version, titled *Un Paarvaiyil*, features Gayatri Shankar, and the Telugu version, *Agochara*, has Esha Chawala.

"I was intrigued by the story and I felt the character would give me a chance to play a challenging role. I am always looking for a challenge that gives me the kick to go out of my comfort zone and discover something through my performance," Rituparna added.

She also spoke of director Kabir Lal's cinematic vision. Lal has in the past shot films like *Taal*, *Kaho Naa... Pyaar Hai*, and *Pardes*, among others. "The way he is setting up scenes, lighting and framing them is wonderful. He is a knowledgeable man. I can see how beautifully he is bringing his experience into every scene, as a cinematographer," shared Rituparna.

Rituparna Sengupta

Aditi Prabhudeva to be paired with Prajwal Devaraj in Gurudutha Ganiga's second outing

The yet-to-be-titled project bankrolled by Bangalore Kumar Films has finalised the *Totapuri* heroine; the film will also star senior actor Devaraj in an important role

CE FEATURES

ADITI Prabhudeva seems to be on a signing spree. The *Old Monk* heroine recently bagged the film *Andondittu Kaala* opposite Vinay Kumar, and she has now been finalised for Prajwal Devaraj's yet-to-be-titled film directed by Gurudatha Ganiga.

The film will also star senior actor Devaraj in an important role.

Confirming the news, Aditi says she had got earlier an opportunity to share screen space with Devaraj for a day. "Now, I am glad to be working with his son. Moreover, I am looking forward to working with Gurudatha Ganiga. He is a youngster with a lot of energy. He got a chance to direct Ambareesh sir right in his first film, *Ambi Ning Vayassaytho*. I have heard a lot of good things about him. I am also excited about getting associated with the production house, Bangalore Kumar Films," she tells CE.

The actor is currently busy shooting for *Totapuri*, which is in the last phase of shooting. She will be joining her latest project by the end of March, when the makers plan to start the filming process.

Kumar B, who has been a distributor in Gandhinagar, will be producing the film, which is currently in the pre-production stages. The team has finalised locations in Bengaluru and KGF for the shooting, but before starting that, they plan to reveal the first look and the title. The movie will have Abhimanyu Sadanandan handling the camera work, while the rest of the cast and crew is still to be finalised.

Gurudutha Ganiga

Prajwal Devaraj

Aditi Prabhudeva

> I am glad to be working with Devaraj's son. Moreover, I am looking forward to working with Gurudatha Ganiga. He is a youngster with a lot of energy. He got a chance to direct Ambareesh sir right in his first film, *Ambi Ning Vayassaytho*. I have heard a lot of good things about him. I am also excited about getting associated with the production house, Bangalore Kumar Films
>
> Aditi Prabhudeva
> actor

Superman not a part of the *Shazam* sequel

CE FEATURES

WHILE it was previously speculated that Henry Cavill's Superman will be a part of the upcoming *Shazam* sequel, *Shazam! Fury Of The Gods*, it's now confirmed the Man of Steel will not be seen in the sequel. The film's director David F. Sandberg took to Twitter to address the rumours making the rounds.

The tweet read, "Not going to comment on casting rumours for several reasons. One being you can't be sure about anything until it's happened. Halfway through shooting Shazam the plan was still for Cavill to be in it. Scoopers could have scooped that and been right at the time but wrong in the end." He also added, "Though I can confirm with 90 per cent certainty that Shazam will appear in Shazam 2. So if you're a fan of that character you might enjoy Shazam 2."

Actor Zachary Levi will reprise the titular character in the film that also stars Asher Angel, Jack Dylan Grazer, Meagan Good, and Faithe Herman. The sequel was scheduled to release in April 2022 but because of the Covid breakout, it has been pushed further.

Parineeti on *The Girl On The Train*: Comparison with Emily Blunt inevitable

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Parineeti Chopra says she was not apprehensive about reprising Hollywood star Emily Blunt's acclaimed role in the official remake of *The Girl On The Train*. She claims she was always unfazed about the comparisons people would eventually make.

"I have to say that I didn't approach *The Girl On The Train* with any apprehension of being compared to Emily Blunt. She is a towering actress and I knew that since I was doing the official Indian remake, comparisons were bound to happen. Actually, I relished the challenge to deliver this role at par with the earlier film," Parineeti says.

She is "thrilled" with the response that the trailer of the Hindi remake has garnered.

> I'm humbled with the love that people have poured in for my acting. It definitely seems to have lived up to the expectation of the English film. I cannot wait for people to see our version
>
> Parineeti Chopra, actor

"I'm humbled with the love that people have poured in for my acting. It definitely seems to have lived up to the expectation of the English film. I cannot wait for people to see our version," she adds.

Parineeti maintains that she has performed the role in her unique style and not tried to stay true to the original film. "I have approached my role without the baggage of what I saw Emily do. I made the character my own and I was clear that I wanted to add my touch to the role. I appreciate that people love what I have tried to do and I can guarantee that they will thoroughly enjoy this edge-of-the-seat thriller when the film releases," she says.